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ALL THE BEST

Vermonters don't just ship local. They eat local, listen local and play local. So if you're looking to do as the locals do—whether you live here or are just visiting—look no farther. For this annual best-of-Vermont guide, locals weighed in on exactly what they like.

Brought to you by *Seven Days*, the state's alternative newsweekly, these pages burst with only the good stuff. We call this guide "the *Daysies*," and our readers have been picking the best and the brightest in the field for 18 years. Nothing underly about that.

Whittling down to the *Daysies* winners took two rounds of voting—from nearly 9,000 people who cast just shy of 880,000 and federal votes. First, folks picked their favorites in 11 categories, ranging from breakfast to bank, ski slope to singer-songwriter. Second, we tallied the votes, selected up to

five finalists in each category—or more, if there were ties—and asked readers to vote once again, because who doesn't like multiple choices?

A note about the "Outside Chittenden County" sections. In Vermont, the largest population outside Chittenden County is so far tough for anyone outside of it to tap the Burlington area (unless the category involves mountains) but in some instances—say bookstore or board shop—the saw 3 of votes for places not in Chittenden County justified separating the category.

So that's what that means.

With personal servers, dark horse challengers and new favorites, the competition always sparks good-natured rivalry and plenty of surprise. To keep things fresh as a *Daysie*, *Seven Days* writers named some favorites of their own this year. It's put a bathroom for naps? Look for that and other unexpected stuff picks sprouting up throughout the guide.

Congrats to all the *Daysies* winners (and almost-winners) and thanks to *Seven Days* readers for voting. You sure know how to pick 'em.

—CAROLYN FOX

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SEVEN DAYS

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FOOD



BEST BREAKFAST/BRUNCH

Penny Chase Café

The long lines are testament to the enduring popularity of this breakfast and lunch spot. Try the oysters followed by two eggs any style. Sides include omelette, hash and avocado sausage. (786) Cherry St., Burlington, 855-8836 (pennychase.com)

Other favorites

- **Laughlin Bros & Cafe**, 150 Church St., Burlington, 855-3158 (laughlinbros.com)
- **Hogwilde Brewery**, 1 Lanesman Lane, Burlington, 861-7445 (hogwildebrewery.com)
- **Harvested Cafe**, 188 Main St., Burlington, 628-9374 (harvestedcafe.com)
- **Sausage House**, 419 Main St., Winooski, 455-5061 (sausagehouse.com)

OUTSIDE CHITTENDEN COUNTY

158 Main Restaurant & Bakery

Breakfast is only on the weekend, but the daily breakfast menu served 10 a.m. to 10 a.m. makes it a must-visit. Choose from built-to-stand portions, 14 types of omelets, sandwiches, soups and salads. (508) Main St., Jeffersonville, 644-8700 (158main.com)

Other favorites

- **Kismet**, 32 State St., Montpelier, 253-6685 (kismetdiner.com)
- **Heath Restaurant**, 41 N. Main St., Waterbury, 861-5857 (heathrestaurant.com)
- **McMurry's Restaurant**, 154 Mountain Rd., Stowe, 552-6525 (mcmurrysrestaurant.com)
- **Peasantry Cafe**, 643 Bayley House Rd., Montpelier, 327-0540 (peasantrycafe.org)

BEST LUNCH

Minery Loves Co.

This open kitchen dishes out seriously impressive New Brunswick-based fare. On Fridays, the San Antonio-based chef serves a lunch special inspired by French cuisine. (802) Cherry St., Burlington, 467-3888 (minerylovesco.com)

Other favorites

- **Laughlin Bros & Cafe**, 150 Church St., Burlington, 855-3158 (laughlinbros.com)
- **Penny Chase Café**, 150 Cherry St., Burlington, 855-8836 (pennychase.com)
- **Harvested Cafe**, 188 Main St., Burlington, 628-9374 (harvestedcafe.com)
- **Daily & City Scone Shop**, 217 College St., Burlington, 861-7676 (dailycityscone.com)

OUTSIDE CHITTENDEN COUNTY

Prohibition Pig

This craft kitchen restaurant serves the craft-beer-loving, award-winning piggy lunches Friday through Sunday. In the adjacent brewery you'll find a house fire with a rotating selection of craft beer. (802) Main St., Burlington, 244-4000 (prohibitionpig.com)

Other favorites

- **Peasantry Cafe**, 643 Bayley House Rd., Montpelier, 327-0540 (peasantrycafe.org)
- **Peasantry Restaurant & Lounge**, 154 Mountain Rd., Stowe, 552-6525 (peasantry.com)
- **Three Pines Restaurant**, 151 Main St., Montpelier, 325-4270 (threepinesmontpelier.com)
- **Wildflower Kitchen**, 34 State St., Montpelier, 465-4771

BEST PLACE TO GET LATE-NIGHT FOOD

Kountry Kart Deli

Known mostly for daily cheeseburgers at limited hours, this Vermont Cheese City deli serves 24-hour eats from 7 a.m. to 3 a.m. 40-year-old owner (508) Main St., Burlington, 854-4068 (kountrykart.com)

Other favorites

- **Al's Backs Kitchen Shop**, 163 Main St., Burlington, 852-4752
- **El George Tapas y Cordon**, 303 Bank St., Burlington, 401-1867 (elgeorge.com)
- **McPhee's**, 206 Main St., Burlington, 854-0377
- **Nectarly**, 161 Main St., Burlington, 854-4771 (nectarly.com)

BEST OUTDOOR DINING

The Skinny Pancake

An eclectic mix of meat and veggie are wrapped in crepes at this city block's beloved eatery. Burlington and Montpelier Salads, soups, kombu and espresso drinks keep even better on the menu. (802) Lake St., Burlington, 540-0384 - 100 Main St., Montpelier, 267-2253 (skinnypancake.com)

Other favorites

- **Breakwater Cafe & Grill**, 1049 St., Burlington, 624-6276 (breakwater.com)
- **Laughlin Bros & Cafe**, 150 Church St., Burlington, 855-3158 (laughlinbros.com)
- **Opinion at the Breadbox**, 10 College St., Burlington, 852-7044 (opinionatthebreadbox.com)
- **Sausage House**, 419 Main St., Burlington, 455-5060 (sausagehouse.com)

BEST CHEF

Eric Warnstedt, Hen of the Wood

This is a true moment for the Vermont-based American chef who has been named for his passion and his food. He has been named for his passion and his food. He has been named for his passion and his food. (802) Main St., Burlington, 455-5060 (henofthewood.com)

Other favorites

- **Jason Jeremiah Minery Loves Co.**, 45 Main St., Montpelier, 467-3888 (minerylovesco.com)
- **Bennett Kitchen**, 150 Church St., Burlington, 855-3158 (bennettkitchen.com)
- **Kyle Bennett, Junction at the River House & Spa**, 75 Court Street, 854-7449 (junctionspa.com)
- **Prohibition Pig**, 217 College St., Burlington, 244-4000 (prohibitionpig.com)

BEST RESTAURANT SERVICE

Hen of the Wood

The exceptional service is carefully selected and the menu is carefully selected and the menu is carefully selected and the menu is carefully selected. (802) Main St., Burlington, 455-5060 (henofthewood.com)

Other favorites

- **Blue Pointe Inn**, 718 Route 2, South Hero, 372-0214 (bluepointeinn.com)



BEST BREAKFAST/BRUNCH

Outside Chittenden County

158 MAIN RESTAURANT & BAKERY

How dare a screen "VERMONT" louder than Shit on a Shingle [sic] vulgarly known as Spiced Beef and gravy on toast, served from a farmhouse kitchen. At 158 Main, chef Jack Kelly serves a Vermont version of the well-known staple — the perfect fuel for during — in a historic space in downtown Jeffersonville. It's not your average cheese from a half dozen eggs Benedict, which took this year's Day for Vermont's best beyond Chittenden County. While the items alone would make a respectable brunch menu, Kelly's weekend spread offers a growing selection of breakfast sandwiches, southern-style biscuits and gravy and healthy egg-white scrambles. Breakfast is the most important meal of the day and at 158 Main it's also the most delicious.

158 Main St. | Jeffersonville | 644-8700 | 158main.com

- **Laughlin Bros & Cafe**, 150 Church St., Burlington, 855-3158 (laughlinbros.com)
- **Minery Loves Co.**, 44 Main St., Winooski, 457-3888 (minerylovesco.com)
- **Harvested Cafe**, 188 Main St., Winooski, 455-5060 (harvestedcafe.com)

BEST PLACE TO GRAB A QUICK MEAL

Al's French Fries

The most decor and location are a throwback to the '50s at this spot named one of America's Classics by the James Beard Foundation. Great as the classic original chili dog, french fries or chili dog are ready in a jiffy, don't miss the seasonal menu. (202) Main St., South Burlington, 861-7335 (alshomestead.com)

Other favorites

- **Elmore**, 30 Church St., Burlington, 854-6977 (elmore.com)
- **City Market/Onion River Co-op**, 81 Winooski Ave., Burlington, 861-7000 (citymarket.coop)

- **New World Tackle**, 646 Pine St., Burlington, 855-7000 (newworldtackle.com)
- **Lobby & City Scone Shop**, 217 College St., Burlington, 244-4000 (lobbyscone.com)

BEST PLACE TO EAT ALONE

City Market/Onion River Co-op

Although one of the world's largest "fish bowls" and the largest fish bowl in the world, City Market/Onion River Co-op is a place to eat alone. The menu is carefully selected and the menu is carefully selected. (802) Main St., Burlington, 244-4000 (citymarket.coop)

Other favorites

- **Laughlin Bros & Cafe**, 150 Church St., Burlington, 855-3158 (laughlinbros.com)
- **New World Tackle**, 646 Pine St., Burlington, 855-7000 (newworldtackle.com)
- **Prohibition Pig**, 217 College St., Burlington, 244-4000 (prohibitionpig.com)
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Tiny Thai Restaurant



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- BEST RESTAURANT SERVICE
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FOOD



BEST THAI RESTAURANT

Tiny Thai Restaurant

The dishes here — including papaya salad (one thing you can't skip) and khao soi (a fry — take the rice bowl with Thai lentils or a bowl of noodles) — all hit the authentic Thai menu. (21 Main St., Winthrop 453-4481; tinythairestaurant.com)

Other favorites

- **Pho King** 325 N. Winthrop Ave., Rutland 263-6271 (facebook.com/PhoKing)
- **Pho Viet Thai Restaurant** 236 Elm St., Montpelier 223-2426; phovietthai.com
- **Table Thai** 217 Union Way Suite 210, South 405-2707; tablethai.com
- **Thai House Restaurant** 333 Swanton Rd., Highgate Center (Shopping Center St., Altona 324-0090; thaihousevt.com)
- **Wattana's City Inn** 34 State St., Montpelier 223-6371

BEST CHINESE RESTAURANT

A Single Pebble

Don't miss out on Sammi Tsai in this authentic Szechuan-style Chef Chuah Duen's leading menu — for \$10 — is the best lunch deal in town. (333 Bank St., Burlington 858-5000; asinglepebble.com)

Other favorites

- **China Express** 290 Shelburne Rd., Burlington 448-2551; chinexpress.com — 38 Main St., Burlington 453-4088; chinexpressvt.com
- **Joy's Szechuan House** 3 Connecticut St., Essex Junction 253-8878; joysszechuan.com
- **Shen Palace** 1010 Williston St., South Burlington 364-0125; shenpalace.com
- **Tan Garden** 71 Maple St., South Burlington 252-8550; tangarden.com

BEST MEXICAN RESTAURANT

El Cortijo Tqueria y Cantina

This taqueria has the best setting the farmhouse. Tap & Grills (locally sourced) soups, burritos and sandwiches along with a wide variety of margaritas. Order your tacos online. (185 Elm St., Burlington 457-9644; elcortijo.com)

Other favorites

- **El Sabor Central** 161 Church St., Burlington 447-2005 • 4 Park St., Essex Junction 253-4334; elsaforcenral.com
- **El Viejo San** 2 Walker St., Westfield 458-2022 • 12 Elm St., Montpelier 223-6438; elviejosan.com
- **Heard's Restaurant** 140 Main St., Candia 783-Battery St., Burlington 858-3377; heardrestaurant.com
- **Musical Grill & Cantina** 28 Walnut St., Suite 100 Maple Tree Farm, Winooski 478-9450; musicalgrill.com

BEST VIETNAMESE RESTAURANT

Pho Hong

This pho has the big, rich, beefy, well-seasoned broth (don't miss the "big" Fry the Happy Pho) and — plus the beef — shrimp, pork and chicken. (265 N. Woodstock St., Burlington 858-8031; phohong.com)

Other favorites

- **H Satang Vietnamese Noodle House** 302 S. Fairbanks Rd., Burlington 858-8383; hnsat.com
- **Pho King Vietnamese Cafe** 215 Main St., Winooski 453-0761; phoking.com
- **Pho Long Vietnamese Restaurant** 5 Park St., South Burlington 338-8830; facebook.com/PhoLong
- **Pho Nguyen** 333 Maple Ave., Burlington 858-4143

BEST ITALIAN RESTAURANT

Trattoria Delia

A favorite first-time restaurant and award-winning wine list distinguish this Italian restaurant. Try appetizers such as spaghetti squid ink (squid or sea buri) or (50 St., Plut St., Burlington 858-2323; trattoriadelia.com)

Other favorites

- **Jardini's Italian** 655 Oak St., Colchester 855-0808; jardinis.com
- **Lombardi Restaurant** (Opening August 25) 300 St. Catherine St., Burlington 858-5200; lombardi.com
- **Papa Frank's** 131a Center St., Winooski 453-2423; papafunks.com
- **Pastore Restaurant** 43 Church St., Burlington 461-9633; pastore.com
- **Santoro's Italian** 200 S. Main St., Montpelier 223-0208; santoro.com

BEST VEGETARIAN FARE

A Single Pebble

This Szechuan-style restaurant is a great place to go. Lunch-only chef set, Sunday brunch & dinner club set. Dinner only. (333 Bank St., Burlington 858-5000; asinglepebble.com)

Other favorites

- **City Market/Union River Co-op** 62 S. Main St., Burlington 848-0308; citymarket.com
- **Flourish Cafe & Eatery** 1168 St., Burlington 243-0212; flourishcafe.com
- **Revolution Kitchen** 15 Church St., Burlington 448-3851; revolutionkitchen.com
- **Seize & Eat** 201 College St., Burlington 862-3884; seizeandeat.com

OUTSIDE CHITTENDEN COUNTY

Kismet

This is one of the best restaurants in the area, above and beyond. The food is healthy, fresh, and is a combination of vegetarian, vegan and gluten-free. Try brunch or the Sunday night — you won't regret it. (31 State St., Montpelier 223-4646; kismetvibe.com)

Other favorites

- **MCY Restaurant and Tea Lounge** 4423 Main St., Shelburne 858-3377; mcystaurant.com
- **Taste The South** 318 Main St., Montpelier 223-1431; tastethesouth.com



staff pick

BEST HOT CHOCOLATE

LAKE CHAMPLAIN CHOCOLATES

Vermont has four seasons: summer, a brief winter full on winter and please God make winter and hot beverages such as cocoa are this.



MOLLY WALSH

owner

It's vital to survive Lake Champlain Chocolates across the best cup in Burlington — so good you'll want to drink it all summer long. Stuffed to perfection, it's just sweet enough with which chocolate flavor and the creamy goodness of milk. And this should be obvious in a very plain, but those lovers are often forced to drink the watery powdered milk drizzle that comes out of push button coffee machines at ski areas and gas stations. Lake Champlain Chocolates serves the authentic article, topped with homemade marshmallows or real whipped cream — no spray cans!

- **ES Chocolat** 51, Burlington 862-0385
- **150 Pine St.** Burlington 864-4601; lakechamplainchocolates.com

BEST COMFORT FOOD

The Farmhouse Tap & Grill

This casual eatery grapples offers them to make budget-conscious, delicious, meat and cheese, and lighter beer from local and for (185 Elm St., Burlington 457-9644; thefarmhouse.com)

Other favorites

- **Shoebout Cafe** 317 Main St., Burlington 448-2010; shoebout.com
- **Shady Lane** 48 Main St., Winooski 457-2026; shadylane.com
- **Our House Bistro** 34 Main St., Winooski 457-2024; ourhousebistro.com
- **Prohibit Pub** 23 S. Main St., Burlington 254-4100; prohibitpub.com

BEST EGGS BENEDICT

Sneakers Bistro

Let's have frequent at this place for more than 10 years. The weekend brunch with its most popular Benedict, is legendary and the daily specials are always in line. (20 Main St., Montpelier 223-4646; sneakersbistro.com)

Other favorites

- **Shoebout Cafe** 317 Main St., Burlington 448-2010; shoebout.com
- **Sneakers Bistro & Cafe** 10 Church St., Burlington 858-2018; sneakersbistro.com
- **Magnolia Bette** 100 Main St., Suite 12 Burlington 445-3446; magnoliabette.com
- **Pearl Street Inn** 85 Pearl St., Burlington 862-3220; pearlstreetinn.com

OUTSIDE CHITTENDEN COUNTY

158 Main Restaurant & Bakery

On days of Fridays, on the weekend brunch and day breakfast menu. Open with everything from 10:00 to 10:00. Best set back. Breakfast menu is available to dinner. (158 Main St., Jeffersonville 444-1100; 158main.com)

Other favorites

- **Kismet** 32 State St., Montpelier 223-4646; kismetvibe.com
- **Maui Restaurant** 411 Main St., Whitehall 254-8080; mauirestaurant.com

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FOOD

BEST BREAKFAST SANDWICH

Country Kart Deli

Whether you choose a classic morning flake or one of the 17 breakfasts, Country Kart is one of the best places to get a breakfast sandwich in Burlington. 150 W. Main St., Burlington, 802-460-1000. countrykart.com

Other favorites

- **The Bagel Place** 180 W. Main St., South Burlington, 802-228-1000. thebagelplace.com
- **Burlington Bagel Bakery & Cafe** 900 Shelburne Rd., South Burlington, 434-0235. burlingtonbagelbakery.com
- **City Market/Village Market** On up 82 S. Wheelock Ave., Burlington, 802-690-0000. citymarket.com
- **Heavy Street Deli** 17 Heavy St., Burlington, 802-224-1400. heavydeli.com

BEST MILK

Myer's Bagel Bakery

A word-fair food scene, Myer's Bagel Bakery is a local favorite. 150 W. Main St., Burlington, 802-228-1000. myersbagelbakery.com

Other favorites

- **Bagel Place of Bakery and Cafe** 30 S. Union St., Burlington, 802-228-1000. thebagelplace.com
- **The Bagel Place** 180 W. Main St., South Burlington, 802-228-1000. thebagelplace.com

- **Burlington Bagel Bakery & Cafe** 900 Shelburne Rd., South Burlington, 434-0235. burlingtonbagelbakery.com
- **First Street Bagels** 555 Pine St., Burlington, 542-0114. firststreetbagels.com

OUTSIDE CHITTENDEN COUNTY

The Bagel

Twenty different bagels are made from scratch each day at The Bagel. 201 S. Main St., South Burlington, 802-228-1000. thebagel.com

Other favorites

- **AC's Bagel Cafe** 17 Green St., Weybridge, 244-3902. acsbagelcafe.com
- **Mike's Bagels** 4000 Route 102, Jeffersonville, 814-2440. mikesbagels.com

BEST CIDER DOUGHNUTS

Cold Hollow Cider Mill

Cold Hollow is a must-stop for locals and tourists alike. Souren's magazine named its doughnuts — churned out by the hundreds every day all year long — among the nation's best. 10000 Route 100, Northbury, Conn., 877-7537. coldhollow.com

Other favorites

- **Chittenden Cider Mill/The Mill Market & Deli** 10000 Route 100, North Burlington, 802-4800. chittendencidermill.com
- **Harlow's Orchard** 10 South St., South Hero, 337-4919. harlowsorchard.com
- **South Main Farm Market** 211 Eagle Rd., Chittenden, 555-3440. southmainfarmmarket.com
- **Shelburne Cider Mill** 218 Orchard St., Shelburne, 802-228-1000. shelburnecidermill.com

BEST PIZZA (RESTAURANT)

Americann Flatbread Burlington Hearth

Flatbread topped with gourmet local and organic ingredients makes for a great meal. 100 W. Main St., Burlington, 802-228-1000. americannflatbread.com

Other favorites

- **Fabrizio's** 800 Shelburne Rd., Shelburne, 802-8000. fabrizios.com
- **Junior's Italian** 101 S. Park St., Colchester, 802-6000. juniors.com
- **Pizzeria Vito's** 104 St. Paul St., Burlington, 434-5444. pizzeriavitos.com

OUTSIDE CHITTENDEN COUNTY

Picasso Pizzeria & Lounge

On the Colchester Road, Picasso's comes from Italy and taught how to eat. Choose from hand tossed thin crust pizza with a meatball and tomato toppings. There are pasta, salads and desserts too. 10000 Route 100, Northbury, Conn., 877-7537. picassopizzeria.com

Other favorites

- **The Blue Stone** 10 Green St., Weybridge, 244-3902. thebluestone.com
- **Pizza Pie** 179 N. Main St., South Burlington, 802-228-1000. pizzapie.com
- **Pizzeria Vito's** 104 St. Paul St., Burlington, 434-5444. pizzeriavitos.com

BEST FOOD/DRINK EVENT

ARTSRIOT TRUCK STOP

Years after branding in bigger cities, the food truck movement is finally alive and well in Vermont. Over the past three summers, the ArtsRiot Truck Stop in Burlington's South End has become a Friday night ritual for hundreds of hungry locals. Catch your favorite foodies — and meet your friends — to feast on burgers and other style barbeque, local and whatever else rolls in. Local favorites include VT Burger Buns and Take Truck All Stars are regulars, and the rotating 17 truck lineup ensures that most flavors and vegans alike will find something to suit their fancy with food under \$10 a drink tent with Huddlehead IPA and Citrus Cider and a casual crowd the Truck Stop is a good place to park yourself.

400 Pine St., Burlington, 540-0428. artsriot.com



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FOOD

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HATCH 31

Sometimes the more things change, the more they stay the same. The restaurant at 20 Main Street in Bristol has switched hands over the years — what was formerly NQ is now the revamped bar and eatery Hatch 31. But



GRETCHEN
RAY
Hatch 31
owner

the cozy spot has remained a family-run establishment where you never feel like just another face. Owned and operated by Matt Wozniak, his daughters Kaitlin and Sarah, and his niece Gabriela Simech, Hatch offers weekly live music, classic pub fare and sweet as pie service that makes everyone feel like a regular — no matter how often you go.

20 Main St. Bristol 433-2774

BY JEFF KRAVITZ

BEST PIZZA [DELIVERY]

Leonardo's Pizza

For pizza delivery service just about and beyond, Leonardo's has got you covered. Pies such as the Roasted Maine Potatoes and Goat Cheese Honey are available on whole wheat crust or gluten-free crust. 181 North St., Burlington, 555-7722. 1000 Wedgeway Rd., South Burlington 551-7000. www.leonardospizza.com

Other favorites

- **Big Daddys** 171 Church St., Burlington 885-0808. bigdaddysdeliv.com
- **Jennifers** 105 Main St., Burlington 862-9134. jennifersdeliv.com
- **JB's** 105 Main St., Burlington 862-9134. jennifersdeliv.com
- **Manhattan Brick Oven Pizzeria** 31 The Commons Shopping Center, Whitehall 459-1600. 100 Sprague Ave., Rutland 247-9980. 1016 Whitehall St., St. Johnsbury 257-9560. 6400 Woodstock Rd., Danbury 331-6643. manhattanpizza.com
- **Three Brothers Pizzeria & Deli** 103 Roosevelt Hwy., Colchester 855-5550. threebrotherspizzeria.com

OUTSIDE CHITTENDEN COUNTY

Piccasano Pizzeria & Lounge

Get your first Hopper or Camozzi pie for \$4.99 on any order from this Vermont, French, Italian, and American eatery. 100 Main St., Burlington 862-9134. 100 Main St., Burlington 862-9134. 100 Main St., Burlington 862-9134. 100 Main St., Burlington 862-9134.

Other favorites

- **James Pizzeria** 20 McKel Rd., Winooski Center 246-7297. jamespizzeria.com
- **Pizzeria Fig** 22 State St., Montpelier 226-5453. 239 N. Main St., Essex 882-9822. pizzeriafig.com

BEST BURGER

The Farmhouse Tap & Grill

This award-winning gastropub offers the best burgers, with inventive options made from ingredients such as house-cured, dry-aged, or smoked briskets and juicy local beef. 264 Bank St., Burlington 233-0575. thefarmhousevt.com

Other favorites

- **Academy** 444 N. Main St., Burlington 233-0575. academyvt.com
- **Five Guys Burgers & Fries** 250 State St., Burlington 862-7515. fiveguys.com
- **Green** 382 Concord St., Williston 857-0429. greenvt.com
- **The Shaggy Dog** 100 South St., Burlington 858-4262. theshaggydog.com

OUTSIDE CHITTENDEN COUNTY

Prohibition Pig

It's not just one burger bopping in the fans here. The Pig has seven regular options, including the House version topped with parmesan cheese, a Beet green lettuce and spiced-up roasted onion. 123 E. Main St., Northbury 244-4700. prohibitionpig.com

Other favorites

- **Burger Barn** 496 N. Route 11, Cambridge 242-4411. burgerbarnvt.com
- **Green Pappy Taproom** 106 Main St., Montpelier 227-5777. greenpappytaproom.com
- **Wholly Burger** 38 Fiskville St., South Burlington 253-2575. whollyburger.com

BEST STEAK

Guild Tavern

Suite steak first and coffee second, moist dry aged steak and onion soup recipe. Don't miss house-made sauces like blue cheese butter and house-made cranberry. 1835 Williston Rd., South Burlington 457-1281. guildtavern.com

Other favorites

- **18 30 and 60 Prime Steaks** 10 Church St., Burlington 481-9244. 1830and60.com
- **Bea of the Wood** 150 Cherry St., Burlington 244-2334. 81 Shaw St., Waterbury 244-7900. beaofthewood.com
- **Laurel's Steaks & Cafe** 178 Church St., Burlington 853-2258. laurelssteaks.com
- **The Wineyard Restaurant** 816 Wilburton St., South Burlington 852-8543. www.wineyardrestaurant.com

OUTSIDE CHITTENDEN COUNTY

Blue Paddle Bistro

Located in the Champlain Islands, the bistro presents elegant, rustic cuisine. "The ingredients speak to us, so we use what's in season," says chef Michael. 115 Route 2, Southtown 333-4814. bluepaddlebistro.com

Other favorites

- **Harmon's Restaurant & Bar** 21 Main St., Danbury 253-7773. harmonsbistro.com
- **Margaret's Restaurant** 100 State St., Montpelier 227-5777. margarets.com
- **Pizza 81** 81 Main St., Essex 882-9822. pizza81.com

BEST FRENCH FRIES

Al's French Fryz

Like everything else about this place, the fries here are done the old-fashioned way: cut, hand-cut and cooked twice to be hot, fresh and bursting for your order. 1254 Williston Rd., South Burlington 852-8333. alshomefries.com

Other favorites

- **The Farmhouse Tap & Grill** 264 Bank St., Burlington 233-0575. thefarmhousevt.com
- **Laurel's Steaks & Cafe** 178 Church St., Burlington 853-2258. laurelssteaks.com
- **Misty Lanes Cafe** 65 Main St., Montpelier 227-5777. mistylanes.com
- **The Shaggy Dog** 100 South St., Burlington 858-4262. theshaggydog.com

OUTSIDE CHITTENDEN COUNTY

Prohibition Pig

The world's best pig. When the chef, Michael, brought his, he was really brought. His fries are thick, cut just right. 123 E. Main St., Northbury 244-4700. prohibitionpig.com

Other favorites

- **The Riverside Restaurant and Tap Room** 115 Main St., Montpelier 227-5777. theriversiderestaurant.com
- **Three Pappy Taproom** 106 Main St., Montpelier 227-5777. greenpappytaproom.com



BEST WINGS

Wings Over Burlington

Left-right turn and slowly upturn: make this wing joint soar. The feast is rich, available, tender, crisp in 15 flavors, then wing to afterburner to the best selling Honey BBQ (560 Dorset St., South Burlington 843) (603-249-9666).

Other finalists

- Buffalo Wild Wings** 322 Shelburne Rd., Burlington 484 5283 (buffalowildwings.com)
- Macys** 160 Main St., Burlington 854-4201 (macys.com)
- The Riverside Restaurant & Tap Room** 115 Main St., Whitebury 248-3222 (theriversidevt.com)
- Bukari African** 504 Main St., Burlington 864-9194 (bukari.com)

BEST SANDWICHES

Martone's Market & Café

This eat-in is popular for its high-piled sandwiches. The Vermont —apple butter ham cheese and honey mustard homemade bread — is a local favorite (16 Main St., Essex Junction 876-8163) (martonesmarket.com).

Other finalists

- City Market/Dixie Meat Corp.** 82 E. Vermont Ave. Burlington 857-9704 (citymarket.com)
- Four Corners of the Earth** 318 Pine St., Burlington 857-5550 (fourcorners.com)
- Winery Lovers Co.** 48 Main St., Windsor 432-3555 (winerylovers.com)
- Real Green** 140 Church St., Burlington 854-2953 (realgreen.com)

BEST SUSHI

Asiana House

At the heart of the Japanese spot, the veggie rolls melt and sushi bar are especially popular in an the Korean and Thai dishes (510 Dorset St., Burlington 854-8816 + 43) (dorset81.com).

Other finalists

- Atsuta Sushi Shop** 311 Church St., Burlington 484-8454 (atsutasushishop.com)
- Kate Japanese Grillhouse** 750 Shelburne Rd., South Burlington 852-8128 (katejapanese.com)
- Sun Dai Japanese Restaurant** 112 Lake St., Burlington 852-6399 (sun-dai.com)
- Sushi Mito** 104 Mountain St., South 253-4376 (sushimito.com)
- Waco Japanese** 3670 Glenmont Rd., Killbuck 437-4241 (wacojapanese.com)

BEST CREAMS

Burlington Bay Market & Café

This white-bread market sells gourmet salads, soups, sandwiches and tapas. The creamiest cream is a dairy cream to be served with chocolate but you've got to try the maple Wines of Lake Champlain on your round and tree (123 Burlington St., Burlington 844-0012) (burlingtonbay.com).

Other finalists

- Art Prescriptions** 1231 Shelburne Rd., North Burlington 852-5223 (artprescriptions.com)
- Blackout Coffee Shop** 165 Church St., Burlington 852-3423 (blackoutcoffee.com)
- Bonday & V. Plaza & Ice Cream** 333 Park St., Essex Junction 878-4441 (bondayplaza.com)
- The Village Naps** 100 Main St., Colchester 883-0884 (thevillagenaps.com)

OUTSIDE CHITTENDEN COUNTY

Vermont Cookie Love

Many sipping up for a frosty baked cookie but the summer (doughnut) obsession is growing. Many customers made their Vermont dairy (3033 Route 7, North Ferrisburgh 429-4703) (vermontcookie.com).

Other finalists

- Bragg Farm Supermarket & Gift Shop** 1240 Route 4, East Hampton 253-2257 (braggfarm.com)
- Sassy Creams** 320 Lake St., Montpelier 223-5823 (sassycreams.com)
- Melons Farm Maple Sugarworks** 1668 County Rd. Montpelier 842-8740 (melonsfarm.com)

BEST FROZEN YOGURT

SoYo Frozen Yogurt

The small-batch frozen yogurt here is made from local dairy. SoYo's ingredients. There are many other 22 toppings including local berries in season. Vegetarian. Free 100 flavors, value change weekly (166 Pine St., Burlington 548-6851) (soyoyogurt.com).

Other finalists

- Haggis Q's** 38 E. Main St., St. Albans 321-2026 (haggisqs.com)
- Orange Lane** 181 College St., Burlington 484-3172 (orange-lane-yogurt.com)
- Yogurt City** 63 Main St., Middlebury 385-2521 (84 Rutland Plaza, Rutland 742-5862 + 321) (yogurtcity.com)
- St. Albans** 528-3375 + 25 Carver Way, Suite 100, Williston 878-3321 (yogurtycity.com)

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- Best French Fries
- Best Food Cart
- Best Bartender (Geoffrey Goggin)
- Best Bloody Mary
- Best House Made Ice Cream
- Best Caterer
- Best Food/Drink Event

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FOOD



BEST HOUSEMADE ICE CREAM

Lake Champlain Chocolates

This Burlington chocolate has something for everyone. Enter a unique hot chocolate take-a-factory tour in 2015 as homemade maple-butter, pistachio or salted caramel ice cream. (10 Church St., Burlington, 804-585-7500; [lakechamplainchocolates.com](http://www.lakechamplainchocolates.com))

Other finalists

- **The Chubby Bumble**, 444 So. Burlington, 848-8050, chubbybumble.com
- **Little Cakes at the End of the World**, 85 Cherry St., Burlington, 542-0036, endoftheworldcakes.com
- **Sweet & Co.**, 375 North Ave., Burlington, 544-4444, [sweetandco.com](http://www.sweetandco.com)
- **U.S. Cream Co.**, Vermont, 343-5266, creamandcompanyvt.com

OUTSIDE CHITTENDEN COUNTY

Iceland Homemade Ice Cream

Based in Granville, this small-scale but professional flavor favors such as French Vanilla and Chocolate Supreme and outdoor events including Vermont State Fair and local fairs. (400 N. Main St., Granville, 333-6358; icelandhomemadeicecream.com)

Other finalists

- **Orin Vermont Gelato**, 32 State St., Montpelier, 253-2443, Facebook
- **Ice Creeps**, 117 Main St., Stowe, 333-0953, [icecreeps.com](http://www.icecreeps.com)
- **Neck's**, 17 Power St., Bridport, 733-3833, www.necks.com

BEST VERMONT CHEESE BRAND

Chabot Creamery

The go-to for cheesemakers throughout Vermont, Chabot Creamery has a reputation for its traditional cheddar, Colby, and other cheeses. (100 Main St., Chabot, 832-4391; chabotcreamery.com)

Other finalists

- **Green Valley Creamery**, 58 Townsend Rd., Castleton, 432-2200, [greenvalleycreamery.com](http://www.greenvalleycreamery.com)
- **Jaeger Hill Farm**, 1814 Carver Hill Rd., Greenboro, 533-2348, jaegerhillfarm.com
- **Shelburne Farms**, 111 Waterford Rd., Shelburne, 548-4888, shelburnefarms.org
- **Vermont Creamery**, 40 Pitman Rd., Newfane, 878-8377, vermontcreamery.com



Dave Rook at the Burlington Farmers Market.

BEST LOCALLY OWNED GROCERY STORE*

City Market/ Onion River Co-op

This is a go-to source for staples of every thickness, with local, regional and international foods. (Check out the cattle section.) (82 S. Vermont Ave., Burlington, 841-0080, citymarket.com)

Other finalists

- **Healing Living Market & Café**, 203 Church St., South Burlington, 859-2389, healinglivingmarket.com
- **Last-minute Market**, 1581 Route 118, Montpelier, 462-4361, lastminutemarket.com
- **Mark's Market**, 101 South St., Cross Junction, 832-9790, 88 S. Main St., Stowe, 253-4526
- **McDonald Market & Beverage**, 1 Middlebury St., Middlebury, 434-1218, mcdonaldmarketandbeverage.com
- **Shelburne Supermarket**, 40 Shelburne St., Shelburne, 548-4530, [shelburnesupermarket.com](http://www.shelburnesupermarket.com)
- **Vermont Cheese Market**, 21 State Way., Stowe, 253-6326, 822 S. Main St., South Burlington, 841-0080, vermontcheesemarket.com

OUTSIDE CHITTENDEN COUNTY

Hunger Mountain Co-op

Montpelier's co-op for healthy children offers a wide selection of local grub and on food items open to adults to grill sandwiches. (at all rates, enjoy after noon view from the coop.) (323 State-Cutler Hwy, Montpelier, 833-8000, hungermountaincoop.com)

Other finalists

- **Camden Hill Market**, 530 Mountain Rd., Stowe, 533-4844, camdenhillmarket.com
- **The Farm Store**, 143 Main St., Cambridge, 841-1103, thefarmstore.com

BEST FOOD TRUCK

Beansie's Bus

This adorable school bus pulled up to Burlington in 1994 — with the current food truck trend. At Burlington Park, the door stays open for the drinks, hot dogs, burritos, fries, macaroni and cheese. (Burlington Park, Burlington, beansies.com)

Other finalists

- **Bugs & Buns**, 352 South Main, Facebook
- **Busin' It**, 314-5422, busin.it.com
- **The Hotspicer**, 319-5560, thehotspicer.com
- **The Lazy Farmer**, 882-9445, legionfarm.com

BEST FOOD CART

Hong's Chinese Dumplings

Known as a winter Hong Kong street food, this is a high-end cart and the only one in the city. (400 N. Main St., Burlington, 844-5001, hongslong.com)

Other finalists

- **Amir's Ice Cream**, 332-8333, Facebook
- **Seven City Bites**, 314-5555, sevencitybites.com
- **The Selling Place**, 542-3199, 887-2223, thesellingplace.com
- **Taco Carts**, 541-1401, Facebook

BEST FARMERS MARKET VENDOR

ROOKIE'S ROOT BEER

Despite the novice status implied in the name, Rookie's Root Beer is an expert at the bubbly soft drink. (Owners Dave and Jenny Rook have spent the last decade

homesteading in a tiny town in the north, with a focus on local ingredients.) To locate Rookie's at the Burlington and Burlington Farmers Markets, just look for a pink root beer barrel — and a few Facebook fans, bring the in many ways for reduced prices on drafts, and Pils. You can't go wrong with the classic root beer, but the orange cream and ginger beer are also tantalizing options. Need caffeine? Opt instead for the Dark Side, a chilled brew spiked with Unaccustomed Grounds coffee and spiced with vanilla molasses whipped cream.

887-6777, Facebook

BEST FARMERS MARKET VENDOR

Rookie's Root Beer

A regular at the Burlington and Shelburne markets, Rookie's dunks treats with its flavorful root beers — Prancing is best by people's choice. Or get a classic root beer blend. (24 Vermont Dr., Burlington, 802-677-7466)

Other finalists:

- BumbleBakery** 101 N. Main St., Burlington, 802-879-8298, bumblebakery.com
- The Bread That Sings** 55 Main St., Burlington, 540-6388, thebreadthat sings.com
- Poll Meow Farm** 2080 Silas Hill Rd., Montpelier, 802-2198, pollmeowfarm.com
- Root Beer Mama** 216 Main St., Burlington, 216-6229, rootbeer.com

BEST BREAD BAKERY

Red Hen Baking Co.

Watch the breads change 10 kinds of breads, dozens while you get yourself a sandwich or coffee. You can shop for local cheese and wine from the location for your next meal. (200 Saturdays) 1961 Route 2, Middlebury, 213-5200, redhenbaking.com

Other finalists:

- August First Bakery & Cafe** 198 S. Champlain St., Burlington, 540-0860, augustfirstbakery.com
- Grain Millery Bread Co.** 201 Pine St., Burlington, 802-633-0200, grainmillery.com
- Kilgus Bread Company** 611 Vermont St., South Burlington, 850-6323, 44 regional stores
- Shelburne Bakery** 202 Main St., Shelburne, 802-877-6161, shelburnebakery.com

BEST SWEETS BAKERY

Mirabelle's Café

Homemade pastries, cakes, cookies and pies as well as fully decorated and lunch specials. Shipping into the bakery sale. The windows are truly beautiful. (200 Saturdays) 1961 Route 2, Middlebury, 213-5200, mirabellecafe.com

Other finalists:

- August First Bakery & Cafe** 198 S. Champlain St., Burlington, 540-0860, augustfirstbakery.com
- BumbleBakery** 101 N. Main St., Burlington, 802-879-8298, bumblebakery.com
- Breadline** 213-0200, breadlinebakery.com
- My Little Bakeries** 101 College St., Burlington, 816-8155, 4 Vermont St., Suite 101, Essex Junction, 212-7670, mylittlebakeries.com

BEST FOOD/DRINK EVENT

ArtsRiot Truck Stop

The big-city food truck menu is finally realized in Burlington. Get Hollywood street food, southern barbecue, West Coast pizza or a locally sourced taco — all in one parking lot. (1605 Deer St., Burlington, 840-0526, artsriot.com)

Other finalists:

- Burlington Wine & Food Festival** 1605 Main St., Burlington
- Burlington Farmers and Food Festival** 1605 Main St., Burlington
- East by Northwest** 1605 Main St., Burlington
- Vermont Farmers Festival** 1605 Main St., Burlington
- Vermont Cheese and Food Festival** 1605 Main St., Burlington
- Vermont Wine and Food Festival** 1605 Main St., Burlington
- Vermont Wine and Food Festival** 1605 Main St., Burlington

BEST TACO

El Cortijo Taqueria y Cantina

Scholar's Vermont Flavor brings a menu of local food with diverse ingredients. Just as quick as fast food, it's a great place to eat. (170 College St., Burlington, 802-860-0000, elcortijo.com)

Other finalists:

- El Cortijo Cantina** 160 College St., Burlington, 802-860-0000, elcortijo.com
- The Hot Tacos** 101 Main St., Montpelier, 223-4599, thehot-tacos.com
- Mexican Grill & Cantina** 101 Main St., Suite 102, Montpelier, 223-4599, mexicangrill.com
- Taco Gumbo** 101 Church St., Montpelier, 223-4599, tacogumbo.com
- Taco Truck** 101 Main St., Montpelier, 223-4599, tacotruck.com

BEST FAMILY RESTAURANT*

American Flatbread Burlington Hearth

It's a place to eat and get a good meal. The opportunity to get a good meal and a good meal. (101 Main St., Burlington, 802-860-0000, americanflatbread.com)

Other finalists:

- Bluebird Restaurant** 101 Main St., Burlington, 802-860-0000, bluebirdrestaurant.com
- The Hearthstone Tap & Grill** 101 Main St., Burlington, 802-860-0000, thehearthstone.com
- Jersey's Italian** 101 Main St., Burlington, 802-860-0000, jerseysitalian.com
- Taco Gumbo** 101 Church St., Montpelier, 223-4599, tacogumbo.com
- The Vermont Restaurant** 101 Main St., Burlington, 802-860-0000, thevermontrestaurant.com

OUTSIDE CHITTENDEN COUNTY
Pinecone Pizzeria & Lounge

Great opening, just in the open air. The opportunity to get a good meal and a good meal. (101 Main St., Burlington, 802-860-0000, pineconepizzeria.com)

Other finalists:

- Taco Gumbo** 101 Church St., Montpelier, 223-4599, tacogumbo.com
- Wheat & Honey** 101 Main St., Burlington, 802-860-0000, wheatandhoney.com



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RINK



What's the first liquid everyone associates with the Green Mountain State? Sorry maple syrup. Vermonters craft beer is now bottling the country between Hall Farmstead and the brewery and the Alchemist — both of which have nabbed international awards and attention — and up and comes such as Highland and 10th Street Brewing, the state is a bona fide beer mecca. Is it something in the water? We suspect the credit simply goes to hardworking brewers.

A number of flyaway categories recognize the beer craze here this year: we asked readers to vote for the rebeker with the best craft beer selection. Would people really be loyal enough to one state to justify the category? We wondered.

² = 1994 category in 1993.

A staggering 3182 voters answered a resounding yes. Congrats to @thesoles Beverage Warehouse for snagging nearly half of those for the win.

Of course, there's more to beverages than beer, cider, spirts and smoothies allowed for Drydays. And not everyone takes drinking as seriously as hop heads. Thanks for sparking the ballot with wit (we hope) in the category of best place to drink alone. Some of your suggestions—in a puddle of my own brews—"under a bridge" and "in the woods."

Another unconventional response made us smile, too. For the new category of best gay-friendly bar someone wrote "All of them" (yep, drinking — and living — in Vermont goes down easy).

BEST PLACE TO DRINK ALONE/BEST COCKTAILS

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 just can't win anywhere. There's
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 Dignity for best cocktail two
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 evaporating summery mix of
 cucumber, blackberry and ginger
 beer — anyone can find their
 happy place. So sit at the intima-
 ble greenhouse or island-style
 — downplace. Or go somewhere
 (1) the DJ lives, which lives
 — auburn peach could a with-
 out. (2) St. Germain and a splash
 of Prosecco. There's nothing like
 it and it's likely to lift your spirits

18 Center St. Burlington, MA 05407,
david@denafv.com

BEST CRAFT BREWERY

Hill Farmstead
Brewery

Great! SeeEmr-voiced this among the best in the industry 2022. The Panel is final spot. We got into International Fellowship. It's a great or great choice in the retail shop — and make new friends while waiting in line to us at 405 Hill Rd., Greenboro NC 27430. bill@seeemr.com

Online Supplement

- **14th Star Brewing Co.** 1131N Main St.
St. Albans 520-5585 14thstarbrewing.com
- **The Alchemist** 1500 E. (on the public!)
35 Concord Rd., Waterbury Center
244-7044 alchemistbeer.com
- **Fishhead Brewing Company** 6520
McBurnie Rd. Shelburne 248-2800
fishheadbrewing.com
- **Switchback Brewing Co.** 182 Flynn Ave.
Burton 453-4444 switchbackbeer.com

BEST WINDY

Shelburne Vineyard

Underlain Ken Hiller is pioneering vine techniques with the northern varieties grapes both at the vineyard and in the cellar. Sample a fine south in the rapid change of the city's wine scene. 30300 Shelburne Rd., Shelburne, 945.8122. shelburnevineyard.com

Other Notes:

- **Bayesian Kitting Winery & Spirits**, 51 Foulie
104 Cambridge 844 2381 bayesianwinery.com
Fresh tracks from vineyard & winery
4113 Route 12 Montpelier 223 931
bayesianwinery.com
- **Lincoln Peak Winery**, 162 River St., New
Haven 221 7332 lincolnpkewinery.com
- **Stone Farm Winery**, 180 W. 10th St.,
South Haven 212 8482 stonefarm.com

BEST CIDER IN INDIA CONDUCT

Cold Hollow Cider Mill

This Wednesday night featured a small visit by Raulo 100. It earned a C grade for first place daughter but lost 7500 to sample judge. One at the Apple Core Lane heaviest snowdrift the action and the 1985-86 press (1980) Route 100 Winterburg 527 75.01 (redheadwings)

Cydonia oblongifolia

- **Champlain College** 3307 Route 74
Champlain, NY 5597 • champlain.edu
- **Chittenden County Mill & Mill Pond & Dam** 1330 Grant St., South Burlington
553 4000 • chittenden.org
- **Haile's Orchard** 88 South St., Southbury
375 4242 • haileorchard.com
- **Shelburne Orchards** 736 Oxford St.,
Shelburne 555 2732 • shelburneorchards.com

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DRINK

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DRINK



BEST HARD CIDER

Citizen Cider

Stay by Children's alert, always keeping looking closer in Burlington for its signature Armed Press, or any happen Full Nelson. Stay for the best bar snacks, stroll home with a grander (3 W New St., Suite 104, Burlington) 408-3275 www.burlington.com

Other products

- **Reynolds Valley Winery & Spirits** 8414-06
104 Cambridge 844-0733 reynoldswinery.com
- **Chapman's Orchard** 3581 Route 74
Shoshone 889-2733 chapmansorchard.com
- **Green Glen** 3673 Ducker St., S. Drive
212 2020 slimewine.com
- **Woodchuck Vine Diller** 1371 East Ave. SE
Pocatello 208-3358 woodchuck.com

BEST SPIRITS DISTILLER

Smugglers' Notch
Distillery

Founded in 2008, this Ashburn operation handles small batch spirits, including award-winning vodkas and wine. **Biggie's Sample Store** is the distillery at the Waterbury Tasting Room, 1776 Main St., Jeffersonville 40309-2277 • 502-373-8048; 108 Ashburn Center, www.biggiesdistillery.com

Other journals

- **California Spikes** 465 Leg. Yard Dr., Henderson
402-8000 californiaspikes.com
- **Hud River Swatters** 3 Route 11, Warren
486-2220 hudriverswatters.com
- **Vermont Spikes** 5023 Woodstock Rd.
Quebec, 466-968 #152, vermontspikes.com
- **WhiskeyRig** 1000 Palmer Rd., Greenham
837-7202 whiskeyrig.com

BEST BREW*US

Prohibition Pig

His year the dropout graduated from his former high school did one-borrowing system low brand-new 40 seat battery and sailing area behind the entrance. Main level houses can not hear to enjoy their part of America's Dream or its rich history. (713) 956-33 56 (956) 344-4922 (and@comcast.com)

Other products

- **Bobcat Caffe & Brewery** 5 Main St., Bristol
403.333.1000 bobcatcafe.com
- **Land Hailor Brewing** 275 Old Creamery Rd.
Plainville 403.604.1234 landhailorbrewing.com
- **Vermont Pale & Brewery** 194 Chittenden St.
Burlington 802.462.0000 vermontpale.com
- **Zero Gravity Craft Brewery at American
Place** 200 Burlington Beach Blvd. St. Paul St.
Burlington 802.269.6666 zerogravitybrew.com



BEST DRAFT REFERRALIST

**The Farmhouse
Tap & Grill**

This heated swimming pool/patio isn't snowed out for its location: burgundy red drifts lie comfortably. The fireplace, parlor and seasonal outdoor seat garden offer a host of rare and covered views from Vermont and beyond. 160 Bank St., Burlington, VT 05401. www.hotelvermont.com

Yellow: Good

- **Jameson's Offshoots and Bar/Brigs on Hwy 63**
155 St. Paul St., Burlington 181 2000
americafoodnet.com
- **Marshall's Pizzeria & Pub** 151
Main St., Burlington 820 1330
marshallspizzeria.com/burlington
- **Maize Bar** 37 Main St., Vermont 385 3220
maizebar.com
- **Wormhole Tap House** 30 Marshall Ave.,
Wilmington 879 3050 • 120 Maple St., Burlington
vrmmaize.com/wormhole

OUTSIDE CHITTENDEN COUNTY

Prohibition List

One of the legends calls for celebration in New England is all the more so this popular literary phenomenon. What better way to wave down the fall, decorated trees, baroque north of the Canadian? or back to front? (23-5, Helen S. Rabinowitz, 244-4320, web@helen.com)

Cellulose Acetate

- **The Farnsworth Restaurant & Tap Room**
12 Main St. February 29th 2022
windsurfing@verizon.com
- **Three Penny Taproom** 100 Main St.
Marquette 202.277.1188 threepennytaproom.com

FIRST WIND 1151

Herb of the Wood

Popular private enterprise rose and Mutter thought we just the beginning of this popular movement. (It started and wine expert William Healy told us) and told bottles and some other Williams visitors by the glass. (201-Clarity 22)

Other Studies

- **Leunig House & Cafe** 110 Church St., Burlington 843-3789 leunighouse.com
ask@le 40 Main St., Wheelock 843-8240
ask40.com
- **Trackside Online** 112 St. Paul St., Burlington 854-5213 tracksideonline.com
- **New Bar & Shop** 109 College St., Burlington 850-7385 newbar.com

FIRST WINE SLIDE

Cheese Traders and Wine Sellers

A multiple choice answer is as important as more than 1300 quality spices, blends of herbs and mouthwatering "sauces" at gourmet foods. All at discounted prices in a South Burlington institution. Check out the gift baskets. (781) 336-0161. South Burlington 863-334-3343. chefsauces.com

Other Events:

- **Cork Wine Bar & Market** 13201 St.,
Noblesburg 870 8223 corkvt.com
- **Deekies Wine** 700 Entry St., Burlington
855 2368 deekieswine.com
- **Village Wine and Coffee** 8266 Shelburne
Rd., Suite 1 Shelburne 888-8880,
villagewineandcoffee.com
- **Win Bar & Shop** 128 College St., Burlington
488 2163 winbar.com

BEST CRAFT BEW SELECTION

BEVERAGE WAREHOUSE

beverage. Little-known games, series and liquors that folks come in droves for are things like the Clipp microbrew in demand heavily together and Lawson's recent Lapog wine. Right times a week, but it also stocks 1,400 other unique bottles. The trend—including a luscious, orange-hued wine concoction—age in a beer cave in anticipation of special releases. Need a last-minute leg for that party? The warehouse keeps 25 barrels on hand, with hundreds more available with a little notice. And if things aren't—er, cold—new Vermont brew coming out, beer geeks know the flavor will have it. That's because award-winning Gaidick—who began her career at age 12 in local bartending and is now one of the state's most passionate advocates of local beer. Her mission is not just to sell the stuff but to educate and enlighten the drinking public.

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BEST PICKUP BAR

Red Square

This 8.5-acre distillery is located in a rural area in the heart of Vermont's scenic landscape. Daily and weekly pickup service is available for local and out-of-state customers. (100 Church St., Burlington 804-850-8000 redsquarevt.com)

Other finalists:

- Beck's** 100 Main St., Burlington 804-433-4444 beckvt.com
- Elk & Wolf Pub** 102 Church St., Burlington 804-842-1600 elkandwolf.com
- Three Needs Brewery & Taproom** 185 Pearl St., Burlington 804-848-1400 3needs.com

BEST DIVE BAR

The Other Place (OP)

The most fun and friendly neighborhood institution opens again this summer. It's a place where you can go to people-watch—or to ignore everyone and watch a game on the tube instead. (Beats served until 1a, 104 W. Vermont Ave., Burlington 804-852-1000 theotherplacevt.com)

Other finalists:

- Charlie's Wood Firehouse** 100 Main St., Montpelier 202-4912
- Essex** 104 Main St., Burlington 804-214-1000 essexvt.com
- High Life** 135 Main St., Burlington 804-848-6485 highlifevt.com
- Three Needs Brewery & Taproom** 185 Pearl St., Burlington 804-848-1400 3needs.com

BEST SPORTS BAR

McGillivuddy's

Sports parties pay for TVs as far as the eye can see, drawing in fans for baseball and college in Highland Inn's Burlington. The long history and high-quality whiskey don't hurt either. (For ratings in the Montpelier location, see Newark St., Montpelier 202-5802 • 140 Union St., Montpelier 202-5201 • W. Governor Jones, Burlington 804-848-0000 mcgillivuddyvt.com)

Other finalists:

- Burlington Wood Firehouse** 100 Main St., Burlington 804-848-6485 highlifevt.com
- Church Street Tavern** 100 Church St., Burlington 804-850-8000 redsquarevt.com
- Beck's** 100 Main St., Burlington 804-433-4444 beckvt.com
- Vermont SportsBar** 1000 Middlebury Rd., South Burlington 804-202-4444 vermontsportsbar.com

BEST PLACE TO DRINK ALONE

The Daily Planet

If you're drinking alone, why not drink well? With a hip, intimate bar, this year's winner for best cocktail is also serving up its beers. Don't leave your libations with a place if it's not for a full-on ritual against the outside world. (10 Center St., Burlington 804-841-9441 dailyplanetvt.com)

Other finalists:

- Blue Bar** 100 Main St., Montpelier 202-4912 bluebarvt.com
- The Other Place (OP)** 104 Vermont Ave., Burlington 804-852-1000 theotherplacevt.com
- Beck's** 100 Main St., Burlington 804-433-4444 beckvt.com
- Three Needs Brewery & Taproom** 185 Pearl St., Burlington 804-848-1400 3needs.com

BEST BAR (OVERALL)

Three Needs Brewery & Taproom

Super for some, some a good choice for two. Located in the bar and brewery open from 4p to midnight on the weekend. Chilled out with good or great locally sourced beer. (185 Pearl St., Burlington 804-848-1400 3needs.com)

Other finalists:

- Anchor** 41 Cherry St., Burlington 804-802-1000 anchorvt.com
- Blue Bar** 100 Main St., Montpelier 202-4912 bluebarvt.com
- Beck's** 100 Main St., Burlington 804-433-4444 beckvt.com
- Three Needs Brewery & Taproom** 185 Pearl St., Burlington 804-848-1400 3needs.com

BEST BOUNCERS

Higher Ground

Located in a historic building in South Burlington, this is a great place to go for a drink and a dance. (100 Main St., Burlington 804-433-4444 highergroundvt.com)

Other finalists:

- Cheshire Ponder Society** Burlington 777-8100 cheshireponder.com
- Beck's** 100 Main St., Burlington 804-433-4444 beckvt.com
- Red Square** 100 Church St., Burlington 804-850-8000 redsquarevt.com
- Three Needs Brewery & Taproom** 185 Pearl St., Burlington 804-848-1400 3needs.com

BEST BARTENDER

Chris Maloney (Hen of the Wood, Burlington)

This bartender has a great sense of humor and a great sense of style. He's been bartending for 10 years and has a great sense of humor. (100 Main St., Burlington 804-433-4444 highergroundvt.com)

Other finalists:

- Red Square (Church Street Tavern)** 100 Church St., Burlington 804-850-8000 redsquarevt.com
- Red Square (Church Street Tavern)** 100 Church St., Burlington 804-850-8000 redsquarevt.com
- Red Square (Church Street Tavern)** 100 Church St., Burlington 804-850-8000 redsquarevt.com
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ROOKIE'S
HOBBY BEER



DRINK



BEST BLOODY MARY

Sneakers Bistro

The weekend brunch—with its gourmet bloody—is legendary and the daily specials are always delicious. Get there early to score the comedy (36 Main St., Worcester; 508-938-0881; sneakersbistro.com).

Other fine finds

- **American Flatbread** Buttrick/Quincy St. 115 St. Paul St., Burlington 344-1288; americanflatbread.com
- **Louisa's Buns & Cafe** 755 Church St., Burlington 652-3769; louisasbuns.com
- **Magnum Bakery** 7 Lower Lane, Burlington 548-1568; magnumbakery.com
- **The Skinny Pancake** 52 Linn St., Burlington 542-6541; 49 Main St., Montpelier 246-1233; skinypancake.com

BEST COCKTAILS

The Daily Planet

The Planet has been a hip, off-kilter bar/restaurant since 1987. There it's a formal dining room and cozy atmosphere. But expect to get to sit in the bar and watch their award-winning cocktails being made (35 Cannon St., Burlington 862-8647; dailyplanetvt.com).

Other fine finds

- **Duff's Tavern** 1933 Robinson St., South Burlington 437-1231; duffstavern.com
- **Hotel du Wind** 25 Cherry St., Burlington 540-0534; 52 State St., Winochka 344-3330; hotelwindvt.com
- **Jungle** 41 Cherry St., Burlington 859-0027; jungle.com
- **Minsky James Co.** 48 Main St., Montpelier 462-2883; minskyjames.com

BEST SMOOTHIES/JUICES

Tomgirl Juice Co.

All day during South End, just-ripe, get the organic seasonal juices in Ultra-Bioenergy Cold-Pressed or Rose-Kugel-Carbonate—both each produce 16 to go in 16-oz. jars (180 St. Paul St., Burlington 542-5553; tomgirljuice.com).

Other fine finds

- **Don Juan + Juice** 198 Pine St., Burlington 652-2273; wakeupjuice.com
- **Healthy Living Market & Cafe** 122 Boston St., South Burlington 863-0385; healthylivingmarket.com
- **The Juice Bar** 285 Main St., Burlington 777-7078; juicebarvermont.com
- **Husky Waters** 184 Main St., Burlington 652-0458; Facebook



Photo: Amy B.

BEST SMOOTHIES/JUICE

TOMGIRL JUICE CO.

Just walking into Tomgirl Juice Co.'s sunny shop in Burlington's South End feels like a treat. As you step the door, a gazelle of assorted yellow, white, and green greets you with many smiles from behind a counter. They stand a tables heaped with organic fruits and vegetables, which they cut to size and add, press into nutrient-packed juices, nut milks, and the puddings. These rotate with the seasons, but midsummer appears—all organic and often sourced from local farms—include watermelon mint, strawberry ginger-lime, and wildflower cashew milk. Go to one to get your morning coffee. About that coffee: It's fresh, roasts a just-baked away at the roastery, and it's one of the finest cups of joe in town. Tasty, fruity, and floral at once, it's worth a stop on its own.

180 St. Paul St., Burlington, 542-5553; tomgirljuice.com

BEST TEAHOUSE

Dohrá Tea

More than 80 varieties of direct-sourced, unprocessed loose-leaf tea are served according to tradition in this Vermont campus. Next a menu! The tea house provides an outdoor light bar (30 Church St., Burlington 532-2424; dohrattea.com).

Other fine finds

- **Husky Waters** 184 Main St., Burlington 652-0458; Facebook
- **The North End Cafe** 48 State St., Montpelier 552-3000; northendcafe.com
- **Green Leaf Tea House** 13 Maple St., Montpelier 457-0452; greenleafteahouse.com
- **Tea Tea Place** 34 Elm St., Montpelier 522-1431; teatateahouse.com

BEST COFFEE SHOP

Uncommon Grounds Coffee and Tea

The in-house roasting, specialty blends, and seasonal outdoor seating make this a love on the Church Street. Mixologist. So is the organic and exotic teas, the treats made from scratch, and whole-cloth goods. Look for seat art on the walls (42 Church St., Burlington 652-6372; uncommonvt.com).

Other fine finds

- **Magnum Bakery** 47 Chapel St., Burlington 652-3769; Facebook
- **Husky Waters** 184 Main St., Burlington 652-0458; Facebook
- **Scout & Co.** 230 North Ave., Burlington 325-0034; 31, 100 St., Winochka 343-1256; scoutandco.com
- **Speaker & Earth Coffee** 400 Pine St., Burlington 652-6036; 104 Church St., Burlington 652-6836; speakersandearth.com

BEST COFFEE ROASTER

Vermont Coffee Company

All Vermont's top independent roasters are organic and fair-trade. Topa Petropoulos of Vermont Coffee Co. is the only in-state, full-time, organic, and fair-trade roaster. The beans (940 Exchange St., Suite 3; Montpelier 534-2775; vermontcoffee.com).

Other fine finds

- **Eric Coffee Roasters** 856 Pine Street, Burlington 777-8871; ericcoffee.com
- **Green Leaf Tea House** 13 Maple St., Montpelier 457-0452; greenleafteahouse.com
- **Speaker & Earth Coffee** 400 Pine St., Burlington 652-6036; 104 Church St., Burlington 652-6836; speakersandearth.com
- **Uncommon Grounds Coffee and Tea** 42 Church St., Burlington 652-6372; uncommonvt.com



Staff pick

BEST PLACE TO GET BUZZED FOR FREE

WOODCHUCK CIDER HOUSE

Watch out, Willy Wonka — and Ben and Jerry. The flavor combos at Middlebury's Woodchuck Hard Cider are every bit as wacky and wonderfully whimsical. From Lazy Lady Lemon Cherry — a tart cider steady — to Dopey Daisy — infused with chamomile and honey — these ciders are best topped in Woodchuck headquarters. For free. Shiva right. It's like Nip in the 70s," one TripAdvisor reviewer raves of the four complimentary samples, each several ounces. For a lightweight fix, we're there's a buzz. For the rest of you, it's at least a good start. Your wallet — and your taste buds — will thank you.

1321 Exchange St., Middlebury
802-88-56 woodchuck.com

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HOURS
WEDNESDAY

BEST BAKISTA

Tom Green (Scout & Co.)

Tom Green just takes the classic "coffee and a doughnut" to the next level. Caffe no more! Tom Green creates quality coffee and pastries for coffee lovers and pastries for coffee. Tom Green with a Mac. Reviewers call it "delicious." [2017 North Ave. Burlington • 802-551-2018 scoutandco.com]

Other finalists

- Amie Mataras (New Moon Cafe)** 110 Cherry St. Burlington 802-551-2018 newmooncafe.com
- Brick White (Speeche & Earth Coffee)** 410 Pine St. Burlington 802-681-0118 speecheandearth.com
- Mara House (Magnificent Cafe)** 41 Maple St. Burlington 802-551-2018 marahouse.com
- Frankie Farm (Speeche & Earth Coffee)** 104 Church St. Burlington 802-681-0118 speecheandearth.com
- Thick Breadline (Capitol Grains Cafe)** 61 State St. Montpelier 802-780-0000 capitolgrains.com

BEST GAY FRIENDLY BAR*

one45

This cutesy, laid-back bar is on the Vermont scene for a long time and takes a very casual and welcoming attitude to their LGBTQ+ community. The bar is definitely one of the regional [40 Main St., Montpelier 802-334-3445 one45.com]

Other finalists

- Drink** 115 St. Paul St. Burlington 802-683-4100 drinkvt.com
- Kaffeologie Specialty** 130 1/2 Church St. Burlington kaffeologie.com
- Three Heads Brewery & Taproom** 145 Pine St. Burlington 802-681-0118 threeheads.com
- Red Square** 130 Church St. Burlington 802-683-4100 redsquare.com
- Don Leverage** 145 Church St. Burlington 802-683-4100 donleverage.com

BEST CRAFT BEER SELECTION*

Beverage Warehouse

Beverage Warehouse sells beer, wine and liquor. Their beer selection is the largest in the state and beer selection. This is one place for heavy hitters and limited. Forest Liquors (1000 St. Vermont 802-250-0000 beveragewarehouse.com)

Other finalists

- City Market/Vision Beer Co.** 87 S. Vermont Ave. Burlington 802-683-4100 visionbeer.com
- Healthy Living Market and Cafe** 207 Church St. South Burlington 802-334-3445 healthylivingmarket.com
- Grain Beer Cellar** 300 S. W. Burlington 802-683-4100 grainbeer.com
- 602 Beer** 107 North Ave. Burlington 802-683-4100 602beer.com

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TASTE • TOUR • ENJOY

ARTS
+ ENTERTAINMENT

Vermonters are a loyal bunch — as we're reminded each year in the arts and entertainment section of the *Buskers*. The nightclubs, theaters, cinemas and gallery fairs are represented here as are ready-to-perform venues. Unlike some local acts new venues open, these guys will probably rule the buffet forever.

Musicians on the other hand come and go — yet Grace Potter maintains her reign as Vermont's best vocalist and singer-songwriter. As does Kat Wright & the Indomitable Soul Band for her funk/funk/soul and best party-alike group. Indomitable indeed! (Also, perhaps it's time for a little lesson on music genres, huh?)

Still, we've crowned some deserving new winners this year in categories such as best large live music venue, best rock group and best actor. Let's give 'em a big round of applause! In our book, everyone who made it into the finals is a star.



Fig. 4: Lamenty Billy Brasher and Sammy Coane

BEST AMERICANA ARTIST/GROUP

STARLINE RHYTHM BOYS

It's hard to believe there was ever a time when the Starline Rhythm Boys weren't rocking Green Mountain honky-tonks and juke joints. There's a timelessness quality about the venerable rootsy/folky trio, which actually formed in 1998. That's a testament both to the band's blue-collar work ethic — they still average something like 100 gigs per year — and vintage twang that harks back to the dawn of rock and roll. "Big ol' lanterns hanging. Telecaster licks are as identifiable as they are slick. And upright banick. Billy Brasher's persimmon-shepherdess whumpin' is worth the price of admission on its own. But the key to SRBs appeal is their ageless front man, Sammy Coane, and his smooth Buck Owens-style croon. Put it all together and you get one of Vermont's most beloved bands in any genre.

starlinerhythmboys.com

→ New category in 2016

BEST LARGE LIVE MUSIC VENUE

Waterfront Park

Wherever massive outdoor events spring up in this beautiful corner — 54 One Burlington Desiring 2014 Festival, Lake Champlain Maritime Festival, David Ford Hardi — you can bet you're looking at the multi-use gem (July 31, Burlington, mywaterfront.com).

Other finalists:

- **Champlain Valley Exposition**, 108 Pearl St., Davis Junction, 855-3345, vexpo.org
- **Figure Center for the Performing Arts**, 50 Main St., Burlington, 656-4500, burlington.org
- **Higher Ground**, 124 Williams St., South Burlington, 852-0717, highergroundvt.com
- **One-By-One Museum**, 6500 Shelburne Rd., Shelburne, 563-3348, theonebyonemuseum.org

BEST SMALL LIVE MUSIC HOT SPOT (CAPACITY UNDER 300)

Nectar's

Look a hot spot Nectar's — also the house that Pitch-Bait — built for the indie rights is where they host original indie/rock acts on all genres. It's not just the space — and only — running near top in town. (743 Main St., Burlington, 534-4733, nectarsvt.com).

Other finalists:

- **Acoustic**, 400 Pine St., Burlington, 340-0038, acoustic.com
- **Mokey House**, 10 West St., Woodstock, 855-4583, mokeyhousevt.com
- **Radii Room**, 9 H. Kimball Ave., Burlington, 852-9345, radiiroom.com
- **Upstairs/Downstairs**, 75 Main St., Burlington, 255-7323, upstairsdownstairs.com

BEST PLACE TO PLAY POOL

Three Needs Brewery & Taproom

A beautifully appointed new generation brewpub craft brewery and taproom offering pool tables and more in a legal location. (314 Peabody, Burlington, 656-2286, threeneeds.com).

Other finalists:

- **Charlie O's Irish Pub**, 10 Main St., Montpelier, 253-6850
- **Mokey House**, 10 Main St., Woodstock, 855-4583, mokeyhousevt.com
- **Nectar's**, 100 Main St., Burlington, 656-4771, nectarsvt.com
- **Van Pelt & Sons**, 81 N. St., Burlington, 340-0038, vanpelts.com

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- Instagram: [smalldogelectronics](https://www.instagram.com/smalldogelectronics)

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100 Crown Street, South Burlington

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BEST PLACE TO GO IF YOU HAVE RESTING BITCH FACE

ESOX

Some people go out drinking to socialize while others



KRISTIN RAWN
CO-OWNER
ESOX

know the hardball as reports from co-owner Kristin Rawn (left) and the latter camp. And on top of my long-wolf tendencies, my natural sociability can be less than sunny when I want to take my unabashed fun out on the

town I go to back — where I know no one will try to burn it up. So, the bartender here doesn't force small talk; the barflies return from the night, including "Smile, sweetie!" and the mandatory penball machine is the perfect playground.

104 Main St., Burlington
602.7374 Facebook

BEST ARTS EVENT*

South End Art Hop

More than a dozen art events, there are more than 30 OGO has a weekend filled with open studios, music, food and a festival. The South End Art Hop is organized by the South End Arts and Business Association and takes place every Sunday from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. (Burlington, 602.432.2222, southendart.com)

Other finalists:

- Festival of Fields, Burlington, 802.766.7666, festivaloffields.com
- Pink Friday Art, Burlington, 354.40.25, www.pinkfriday.com
- Open Studio Weekend, South End, 202.332.3322, www.openstudio.com
- Vermont Burlesque Festival, Burlington, 802.432.2222, www.vtburlesquefestival.com

BEST MUSEUM*

Shelburne Museum

Founded in 1907, the Shelburne Museum has more than 100,000 items in its permanent collection, including famous 19th-century objects, as well as impressionist paintings. With the opening of the Russell Center for Art and Education, the museum now has great indoor gallery space. 100 Shelburne Rd., Shelburne, 802.348.3488 (shelburnemuseum.org)

Other finalists:

- ECHO Lakes Aquarium and Science Center, 1 College St., Burlington, 802.255.1555, echo.org/burlington
- Railroad Museum & Planetarium, 1022 Main St., Burlington, 802.255.1555, railroadmuseum.org
- University of Vermont Fleming Museum of Art, 61 Cabotville Ave., Burlington, 802.255.1555, uvm.edu/fleming

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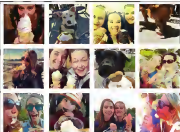


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SHOPPING

LOCAL LIFE IN THE NORTH WOODS | ENVIRONMENTAL CONSCIOUSNESS | 33

SHOPPING

BEST MEN'S SHOE STORE

Lenny's Shoe & Apparel

For its glamour, premises in a superb apparel store specializing in high quality men's shoes, socks, underwear, accessories, men's brands such as Timberland and Merrell, 2007 Future Mr. Sublime 175-6500 / 34th Main St., Suite 1001 / 334th Main St., Suite 100-7046 / 1635 Seward St., Suite 207 5323-1195 from future mr. (pittsburgh.n.y. 516-364-3400 lennys.com)

Other finalists:

- Danforth Shoes** 2 Church St., Suite 100 284-7919, 104 Kensington Dr., Colchester 943-2032 / 3300 Shillbush Rd., Shillbush 522-3450 / 150 Franklin St., St. Albans 527-0946 danforthsneakers.com
- Dear Lucy** 34 Church St., Burlington 852-8326 lucylucy.com
- Wings** 87 Cherry St., Burlington 852-3000 wings.com
- Outlets-Gear Exchange** 10 Church St., Burlington 852-8870 gearx.com

BEST WOMEN'S SHOE STORE

Danforth Shoes

Danforth Shoes, since its inception for all ages specializing in high quality shoes, fitting specialists at their locations help their young clientele (2 Church St., Burlington 854-7919 / 104 Kensington Dr., Colchester 943-2032 / 3300 Shillbush Rd., Shillbush 522-3450 / 150 Franklin St., St. Albans 527-0946 danforthsneakers.com)

Other finalists:

- Dear Lucy** 34 Church St., Burlington 852-8326 lucylucy.com
- Lenny's Shoe & Apparel** 2007 Future Mr. Sublime 175-6500 / 34th Main St., Suite 100 / 334th Main St., Suite 100-7046 / 1635 Seward St., Suite 207 5323-1195 from future mr. (pittsburgh.n.y. 516-364-3400 lennys.com)
- The Shoe Store** 100 Church St., Burlington 852-5454 theshoestore.net
- Circle Nine** 56 Church St., Burlington 854-2303 circle-nine.com

BEST SECOND-HAND CLOTHING

2nd Time Around

The owners, all management company has an impact on Burlington's second-hand marketplace. The shop is popular for its "new arrivals" section of accessories and shoes such as 2013 Church St., Burlington 852-8100 2ndtimearound.net

Other finalists:

- Antique Street Jeans** 17 Middle Ave., Suite 100 852-8323 facebook.com
- Best Deal** 41 Main St., Burlington 852-1461 bestdeal.com
- Goodwill** 1280 Shelburne Rd., South Burlington 859-2306-3071 goodwill.com
- Plucky's Closet** 34 1st Street Shopping Center 859-2000 pluckyscloset.com



Kaito Minko Kaito and Shira Minko

BEST PET SUPPLY STORE

PET FOOD WAREHOUSE

If your pet can eat it, wear it, play with it, live or travel inside of it or pump it in it, pet food is what Pet Food Warehouse has it. The store's two locations, confirm pretty much everything any pet – or pet owner – could possibly want, including treats, food, accessories, other brands of food and toys. Ultra friendly and informed employees know all there is to know about, say the provenance of the ingredients in your kitty's favorite kibble, and they'll even help you find the stuff to your car. A frequent buyer program gives the burden on your wallet, and bowls of treats by the registers keep Fido happy, too.

2458 Shelburne Rd., Shelburne • 855-3333 / 3300 Williston Rd., South Burlington • 852-2554 - petfood.com

BEST CHILDREN'S CLOTHING STORE

Once Upon a Child

Everyone knows the wonders that the gently used clothes can do for children – they grow up so fast! From baby to toddler and baby gear from top-to-bottom. Children's clothing, baby gear, toys, 879-5444, onceuponachild.com

Other finalists:

- MONTESSORI MONTessori** 100 Church St., Suite 100 852-8323 montessori.com
- Gap Kids** 1 Church St., Burlington 852-2714 gap.com
- Juliana Children** 20 Church St., Burlington 852-3800 julianachildrensburlington.com
- Little Treasures** 15 Main St., Burlington 852-2229 littletreasures.com

BEST EYEGLASSES STORE

Eyes of the World

Falls with four eyes, you can get a new look at the personal Eye of the World. Eyes of the World is the only store in the area that carries a full range of eyewear, contact lenses, 2007 Future Mr. Sublime 175-6500 / 34th Main St., Suite 100-7046 / 1635 Seward St., Suite 207 5323-1195 from future mr. (pittsburgh.n.y. 516-364-3400 lennys.com)

Other finalists:

- Costco** 200 Lower Mountain View Dr., Colchester 336-2000 costco.com
- Eyes of the World** 200 Church St., Burlington 852-8323 eyesoftheworld.com
- Eyes of the World** 200 Church St., Burlington 852-8323 eyesoftheworld.com
- Lessons** 100 Church St., Suite 100 852-8323 lessons.com
- The Optical Center** 100 Church St., Burlington 852-8323 opticalcenter.com

BEST PLACE TO BUY JEWELRY

Perrywinkle's Fine Jewelry

Perrywinkle's Fine Jewelry, diamonds and gemstones around the world for its fine pieces, and its collection of many national brands of jewelry and watches, 2007 Future Mr. Sublime 175-6500 / 34th Main St., Suite 100-7046 / 1635 Seward St., Suite 207 5323-1195 from future mr. (pittsburgh.n.y. 516-364-3400 lennys.com)

Other finalists:

- Task Task Jewellers** 100 Church St., Burlington 852-8323 tasktaskjewellers.com
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- Verdugo's Jewelry** 100 Church St., Burlington 854-0023-2000 verdugosjewelry.com
- Verdugo's Jewelry** 100 Church St., Burlington 854-0023-2000 verdugosjewelry.com
- Verdugo's Jewelry** 100 Church St., Burlington 854-0023-2000 verdugosjewelry.com

BEST BEAUTY PRODUCT RANGE

Mirror Mirror

Mirror Mirror is a high-quality makeup and beauty products store. The store's two locations, confirm pretty much everything any beauty product – or beauty enthusiast – could possibly want, including makeup, hair, and accessories. Ultra friendly and informed employees know all there is to know about, say the provenance of the ingredients in your beauty products, and they'll even help you find the stuff to your car. A frequent buyer program gives the burden on your wallet, and bowls of treats by the registers keep Fido happy, too.

- The Body Shop** 100 Church St., Burlington 852-8323 thebodyshop.com
- M&M Cosmetics** 46 Church St., Burlington 852-1000 mmmcosmetics.com
- Body Shop** 100 Church St., Burlington 852-8323 thebodyshop.com
- Body Shop** 100 Church St., Burlington 852-8323 thebodyshop.com
- Body Shop** 100 Church St., Burlington 852-8323 thebodyshop.com



BEST PET-SUPPLY STORE

Pet Food Warehouse

Since 1983, Vermonters have flocked to this animal-loving employer for everything dogs, birds, cats, reptiles, amphibians. The store's motto: "We care about your pet!" (2022) 603-888-1140 (South Burlington) 603-888-1140 (Burlington) 603-888-1140 (Shelburne) 603-888-1140 (Phillyville)

Other finds:

- Kitty Farm and Yard** 21 Zephyr St., Williston 812-512-79 29 Barn St., Montpelier 226-8847
- Two Paws & a Hoof** 111, Montpelier 833-2523 www.twopawsandahoof.com
- The Pet Advantage** 300 Devon St., South Burlington 862-7911 www.petadvantage.com
- Pets** 441 South Main St., Burlington 254-5206
- 100 Acres** 100 Acres 476-1582, phone card
- Red Barn** 21 Treadle Lane, Williston 832-3439 www.redbarn.com

BEST MUSICAL-INSTRUMENT STORE

Advance Music Center

This locally owned instrument shop sells quality guitars, amps, drums, and keyboards, as well as sheet music and method books. It also offers lessons for all levels, acoustic and electric, and sound equipment. (2022) 862-8111, Burlington 862-8111 www.advancemusiccenter.com

Other finds:

- Guitar Center** 234 Johnson St., Williston 832-3677 www.guitarcenter.com
- Guitar Barn** 21 Main St., Montpelier 226-8847 www.guitarbarn.com
- Stratford Music Store and Guitar Repair** 210 College St., Burlington 832-8070 www.stratfordmusic.com
- Vintage & Vintage** 234 Church St., Burlington 862-3346 • 24 Main St., Suite 2, Montpelier 226-8847 www.vintage.com

BEST BOOKSTORE

Phoenix Books

With their shops in Essex and Burlington, women Alice Gendron and Anne-Marie Kelly are among the best bookstores in the state. Of new releases and paperbacks are just part of the fun. They offer thousands of titles for your e-reader. 300 Mt. Pearl St., Burlington 812-3330 • 21 Essex St., Essex 862-3330 www.phoenixbooks.com

Other finds:

- Books & Books** 102 Depot St., South Burlington 862-8021 www.booksandbooks.com
- Book & Book** 101 Church St., Burlington 862-3330 www.booksandbooks.com
- The Flying Pig Bookstore** 2041 Shelburne St., Shelburne 962-3056 www.flyingpigbooks.com

OUTSIDE CHITTENDEN COUNTY

Bear Pond Books

One of several independently owned bookstores in King Mountain, Bear Pond keeps an inventory of new books, audio, and video, and is a favorite for its community. (2022) 862-3330 • 21 Essex St., Essex 862-3330 www.bearpondbooks.com

Other finds:

- Bookstore Books** 25 Devon St., Williston 812-512-79 29 Barn St., Montpelier 226-8847
- The Bookend Book Shop** 30 Main St., Montpelier 226-8847 www.thebookendbookshop.com

BEST HOUSEWARES STORE

Homeport

The four-level store has a wide range of household products, including kitchen and bathroom furniture, office supplies, seasonal items, and a terrific selection of greeting cards. (2022) 862-3330, Burlington 862-3330 www.homeport.com

Other finds:

- Capital Kitchen** 16 State St., Montpelier 226-2332 www.capitalkitchen.com
- East Lake & Beyond** 103 Treadle Lane, Williston 832-3439 • 2022-7911 www.eastlakeandbeyond.com
- HomeGoods** 505 Shelburne St., Shelburne 862-3330 • 103 Treadle Lane, Williston 832-3439
- HomeGoods** 505 Shelburne St., Shelburne 862-3330 • 103 Treadle Lane, Williston 832-3439

BEST CHILDREN'S TOY STORE

Woodbury Mountain Toys

For more than 20 years, this Montpelier toy shop has helped customers find the perfect gift, be it a toy car or a LEGO set. (2022) 862-3330 • 103 Treadle Lane, Williston 832-3439 • 2022-7911 www.woodburytoy.com

Other finds:

- Woodbury Mountain Toys** 103 Treadle Lane, Williston 832-3439 • 2022-7911 www.woodburytoy.com
- James Toy Center Toy Shop** 34 Park St., Shelburne 862-3330 • 103 Treadle Lane, Williston 832-3439
- Green Toys & Crafts** 38 1/2 Corners Shopping Center, Williston 832-3439 www.greenplay.com
- Toy 101** 244 Depot St., Williston 812-512-7911 www.toy101.com

BEST FURNITURE STORE

Burlington Furniture Company

From custom and contemporary designs, the Burlington group locally owned store showcases a wide range of dining, living, and bedroom furniture, wood framed beds, and decorative items. (2022) 862-3330 • 21 Essex St., Essex 862-3330 www.burlingtonfurniturecompany.com

Other finds:

- Burlington Furniture Company** 241 Main St., Williston 832-3439 www.burlingtonfurniturecompany.com
- Homeport** 103 Treadle Lane, Williston 832-3439 • 2022-7911 www.homeport.com
- The Superstore** 345 Main Park St., Williston 832-3439 www.superstore.com
- Homeport** 103 Treadle Lane, Williston 832-3439 • 2022-7911 www.homeport.com

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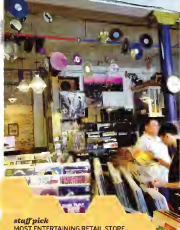
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staff pick
MOST ENTERTAINING RETAIL STORE

BUCH SPIELER RECORDS AND THE GETUP VINTAGE

Montpelier is filled with unique boutiques, but the one that takes me to my happy place is Buch Spieler Records and, within it, The Getup Vintage. I love the funny cards first — particularly the New Yorker cartoon selection. Orchard Staining, a great stained glass window, is a giant cardboard cut that plays visiting days. Vinyl records range from the coolest like Hot potatoes, and thousands of for sale Life spin every genre and now. On the Getup side, colorful hanging dresses from yesteryear add festive flair. The record store, founded in 1973 by Fred Weber and now co-owned by Kevlar Jernacek and Knight Lander, and the recycled-clothing enterprise, owned by Hannah Stein and Jeff Thomson, joined forces under one roof five years ago. It's a simpatico relationship. Here, the past is a present.

27 Langdon St., Montpelier 226-0448
buchspielerecords.com



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- FINALIST!** Best Menswear Store
- FINALIST!** Best Men's Shoe Store
- FINALIST!** Best Ski/Snowboard Shop
(inside Chittenden County)
- FINALIST!** Best Bike Shop
(inside Chittenden County)
- FINALIST!** Best Outdoor Outfitter

37 Church Street

Burlington

(888) 547 4327



SHOPPING

BEST PLACE TO BUY A PIPE

Full Tank

Look for discounted cigarette and water pipes in inventory of pipes. The shop also carries many other tobacco accessories. 1504 Church St., Burlington, 255-2553. full-tank.com

Other finalists:

- Smoke Shop** 135 Main St., Burlington 415-0954. smoke-shop.com
- Good Stuff** 21 Church St., Burlington 654-6520 • 100 Federal St., St. Albans 324-6577 • 34 Sunset Dr., Waterbury 244-0702 • 183 N. Main St., Rutland 252-9233 • 4187 Route 3, Derby 487-9333. goodstuffusa.com
- Northern Lights** 15 Main St., Burlington 454-6555. northernlightsusa.com
- Smoke It Store** 1024 River St., Waterbury 244-6438. smokeit.com

BEST PLACE TO BUY LINGERIE

Aristelle

The lovely owner boutique specializes in items fitting for every woman's body, offering pretty and attractive in designs of styles and sizes in active, mature, and swimwear. It's an intimate spot for ladies and gentlemen, various size. 311 Church St., Burlington 257-3913. aristelle.com

Other finalists:

- Aristelle Underwear** 41 Village St., Suite 322, Burlington 426-9044. aristelleunderwear.com
- Martha Stewart** 32 Church St., Burlington 654-2787. marthastewart.com
- Good Stuff** 21 Church St., Burlington 654-6520 • 100 Federal St., St. Albans 324-6577 • 34 Sunset Dr., Waterbury 244-0702 • 183 N. Main St., Rutland 252-9233 • 4187 Route 3, Derby 487-9333. goodstuffusa.com
- Victoria's Secret** 45 Church St., Burlington 452-1524 • 135 Essex St., South Burlington 660-9637. victoriassecret.com

BEST OUTDOOR GUTFITTER

Outdoor Gear Exchange

Locally owned Outdoor Gear Exchange has been selling outdoor apparel and equipment, and providing environmental awareness, since 1985. 21 Church St., Burlington 650-0158. ogex.com

Other finalists:

- Eastern Mountain Sports** 100 Sunset St., South Burlington 254-0670. emsports.com
- J.L. Lewis** 45 Church St., Burlington 654-2787. jll-lewis.com
- Outdoor River Sports** 251 LaGrange St., Montpelier 229-9489. outdoorriver.com
- Skiway** 35 Main St., Burlington 650-4330. skiway.com

BEST SKI/SNOWBOARD SHOP

Burton Flagship Store

With the snowboarding pioneer this hip outlet is your first stop for clothing and gear before hitting the slopes. 313 Industrial Way, Burlington 650-3302. burton.com

Other finalists:

- Alpine Shop** 114 Westgate Rd., South Burlington 654-0744. alpine-shop.com
- Outdoor Gear Exchange** 21 Church St., Burlington 654-6520. ogex.com
- Skiway** 35 Main St., Burlington 650-4330. skiway.com

OUTSIDE CHITTENDEN COUNTY

Onion River Sports

Resolute employees draw on their own mountain experience to help shoppers gear up for their. Mountain not Polaris? No worries. The full-service ski shop will mount your bindings and do everything right: sharpening and repairs. 321 LaGrange St., Montpelier 229-6420. onionriver.com

Other finalists:

- Alys Ski and Sports** 150 Mountain Rd., Stowe 353-4353. alys.com
- Currituck Sports** 2102 Mountain Rd., Stowe 253-0301 • 1842 Kilgus Rd., LaGrange 654-6520 • 31 Post Rd., LaGrange 654-6520. currituck.com
- Ice Cream Snowboard Shop** 125 Old Mt. Loop, Jeffersonville 544-3833. icecreamsnowboardshop.com

BEST BIKE SHOP

Earl's Cyclery & Fitness

Earl's Cycling & Fitness has been keeping bikes in shape for more than 60 years. Its longevity testifies to customer satisfaction with the knowledge and quality of its staff and the repairs it offers. In its home in the Blue Dragon 725 South St., South Burlington 654-5187. earlsbikes.com

Other finalists:

- New to Star Sports** 1200 Main St., Burlington 650-5818. newto.com
- Earl's Cyclery & Fitness** 725 South St., Burlington 654-5187. earlsbikes.com
- Outdoor Gear Exchange** 21 Church St., Burlington 654-6520. ogex.com
- Skiway** 35 Main St., Burlington 650-4330. skiway.com

OUTSIDE CHITTENDEN COUNTY

Onion River Sports

Onion River Sports has been keeping bikes in shape for more than 60 years. Its longevity testifies to customer satisfaction with the knowledge and quality of its staff and the repairs it offers. In its home in the Blue Dragon 725 South St., Montpelier 229-6420. onionriver.com

Other finalists:

- Alys Ski and Sports** 150 Mountain Rd., Stowe 353-4353. alys.com
- Currituck Sports** 2102 Mountain Rd., Stowe 253-0301 • 1842 Kilgus Rd., LaGrange 654-6520 • 31 Post Rd., LaGrange 654-6520. currituck.com



Bob, owner of Mountain Gear

BEST OUTDOOR OUTFITTER

OUTDOOR GEAR EXCHANGE

Even after 31, Bob set up shop around the corner last November. Outdoor Gear Exchange continues its reign as the preeminent gear and apparel stop for outdoorsy types. The successful business has the get-it-done spirit that has grown to 162 plus employees and more than 100,000 square feet of goods, ranging from rental gear, stacked with headlamps, climbing gear, Vermont-made Dora Tough socks and more. In the bargain basement, shoppers can score great deals on used ski and snowboard equipment, clothes and footwear. After years of dominating the daypack category, there's not much left to say about OGE that hasn't been said before. Except this: Keep up the good work!

21 Church St., Burlington 650-0158. ogex.com

BEST KITCHEN STORE*

Kiss the Cook

Twelve years in this locally owned kitchen and grill shop, the staff's extensive, quality customer service is something to write home about. — including a friendly and a kitchen series — also offer online shopping. 20 Church St., Burlington 654-4200. kiss-the-cook.com

Other finalists:

- Bath & Beyond** 116 Thayer Lane, Williston 226-5551. bathandbeyond.com
- Chef Candace Kitchen & Store** 315 Falls St., Shelburne 487-3942. chefcandace.com
- Marketplace** 52 Church St., Burlington 654-6444. marketplace.com
- Williams Sonoma** 415 Church St., Burlington 654-4025. williams-sonoma.com

OUTSIDE CHITTENDEN COUNTY

Stowe Kitchen Bath & Linens

Top of the-line cookware, kitchen products, lighting items and decorative home items carried at this store since its 1973 beginning. Now you can find home decor, small furniture and great gifts here. 104 1018 Mount Rd., Stowe 253-8838. stowekitchen.com

Other finalists:

- At the Cross Keys** 31 N. Main St., St. Albans 351-2020. atthecrosskeys.com
- Capital Kitchen** 81 State St., Montpelier 229-2555. capitalkitchen.com

BEST CROCKERY AND HOUSEWARES STORE

ReSource

RESOURCE is a mission: that is to provide to the better city of the independent center for family used or refurbished goods. There's a huge selection of building materials, too. 216A Pine St., Burlington 654-4543 • 109 Pine St., Burlington 654-4543 • 32 Grand St., Burlington 654-4543 • 109 Pine St., Burlington 654-4543. resourcevt.org

Other finalists:

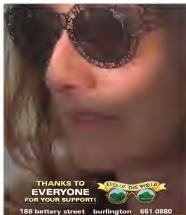
- Argyle & the Little Bear** 31 Main St., Burlington 654-0001. argyle.com
- Rags and Rags** 371 Pine St., Burlington 654-9333. ragandrag.com
- Seaside** 103 Williston Rd., South Burlington 654-5555 • 309 Vermont Ave., Williston 654-0001. seasidevt.com

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LETS OF THE WORLD

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Open M-F 9-7 • Sat 9-5:30 • Sun 10-5

SERVICES



Call us creatures of habit, but Vermonters know what we like: in our banks, salons, gyms and other services. If it ain't broke, don't fix it, right? Once you find someone who understands your hair, why go looking for another stylist? Playing favorites is fine by us — it means his counting on our end for one thing.

On the other hand, we like to keep things interesting, and that's why we added several categories to the mix this year. For the first time, we differentiated between best day spa and best resort spa (best marketing/advertising agency is new too. Among the newbies in the winners circle are oh my gosh, two Day Spa Perfect Nails by The Burlington Garage and Fuse. Congrats!

BEST RESORT SPA

TOPNOTCH RESORT & SPA

Here's a healthy prescription for the blues. Book yourself an hour-long massage at the Topnotch Resort & Spa. Once the knots, aches and pains have been kneaded from your back and shoulders, slip into the hot tub for a relaxing soak. Then don one of the spa's soft tosylath robes, order yourself a poolside margarita, kick back and forget about email and Monday meetings. If a few hours at the aptly named Topnotch haven't resulted in a significant attitude adjustment, check into a room and repeat, as necessary.

6000 Mountain Rd., Stowe, 760-8320 | topnotchresort.com

BEST NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION

Humane Society of Chittenden County

The HSCC takes in approximately 1,000 animals a year. Shelters (open day 100+ homeless pets waiting) cared for — and prepared for adoption. Consider it the first step to finding your new friend. 840 Lincoln St., South Burlington 840-0336 | chittendenhumane.org

Other finalists:

- **Commission on Temporary Shelter (COTS)**
80 North Ave., Burlington 844-7400
cots.org
- **Spay & Neuter Youth & Family Services**
21 Linwood Ave., Burlington 864-3423
spayneuter.org
- **United Way of Chittenden County**
472 Union St., Suite 200, South Burlington, 864-1347 | unitedwayvt.org
- **Newest Friends** 33 Phelan Rd., Stowe
802-585-2290 | vtdogsandkitty.com

BEST PET DAYCARE

Oh my DOG

Tired of waiting out your four-legged friend in a doggie kennel while the daycare building is under testing? They'll even post photos on the local Facebook if you don't experience separation anxiety. 76 Line Road, South Burlington 489-5279 | ohmydogvt.com

Other finalists:

- **Crescent Hill Kennel** 90 Central Rd. St. Albans 377-8320 | crescenthillkennel.com
- **The Crate Escape** 5 Green Mountain Dr., South Burlington 865-3640 | 714 W. Main St., Richmond 454-8440 | thecrateescape.com
- **Gentle's Doggie Daycare** 29 Industrial Ave., Williston 345-7164 | gentsdoggy.com
- **Play Dog Day** 688 Rte. 3, Burlington 242-5545 | playdogvt.com

BEST VETERINARY/ANIMAL HOSPITAL

Green Mountain Animal Hospital

Founded in 1989 by Jeff Stoppel, the hospital has two locations, five doctors and a fourth of veterinarians. From puppy and kitten care to geriatric medicine, it's a full-service animal care. 1933 Williston Rd., South Burlington 862-7001 | 137 North Ave., Burlington 868-5035 | greenmountainvet.com

Other finalists:

- **Pittsford Veterinary Hospital** 200 S. Park Dr., Colchester 854-0808
- **Minors Veterinary Hospital** 2 University Lane, Milton 883-4000 | minorsvethospital.com
- **Shelburne Veterinary Clinic** 174 Chittenden St., Burlington 863-2767 | shelburnevet.com
- **River Cove Animal Hospital** 7 River Cove Rd., Williston 878-7884 | rivercovevet.com



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Doggie Styles Grooming & Boutique

After a risk in selecting risky groomers, we've chosen a safe with a pet-savvy. Since 2005, Doggie Styles has been dedicated to providing a safe, positive and comfortable grooming experience for your pet with love. 140 Sutter Rd., Crocker-Hale 434-7487 (doggystyles.com)

Other favorites:

- **A Paws for Pets** 100 Henshaw Dr., Crocker-Hale 383-0032 (apawsforpets.com)
- **How Many Pets Grooming** 20 Sutter Whelan Rd., Suite 3 Suite Jackson 836-3640 (howmanypetsgrooming.com)
- **Scratch Dog Grooming** 30 Westwoodville Dr., Henshaw 432-2077 Facebook
- **Pampered Pet Grooming & Supply** 127 Sutter Ave., Suite 115 Burlington 835-3334 (pamperedpet.com)

BEST WEDDING VENUE

Shelburne Farms

Whether you're looking for an intimate or larger party at the Crocker-Hale, the formal gardens, event spaces, museum, cuisine and Lake Champlain make Shelburne Farms a perfect venue for your special day. 1871 Route 30, Shelburne 855-8898 (shelburnefarms.org)

Other favorites:

- **The Barn at Crocker-Hale** 44 Route 164 Crocker-Hale 398-0055 (barnatcrocker.com)
- **The House Farm & Inn** 30 House Farm Lane, VT 05710 (housefarmandinn.com)
- **The Old Lanes Inn & Barn** 3358 Greenbush Dr., Crocker-Hale 432-0030 (oldlanes.com)
- **The Ponds at Rockville Valley** 1000 Boston Access Rd., Jackson Valley 344-1448 (theponds.com)

BEST CATERER

Sugarsnap

Like a summer in summer time, this firm is total delicious. It's been with us since 2003, with a focus on the intimate. Sugarsnap operates out of kitchen at Technology Park and CTC's Living Center for Lake Champlain where it's the exclusive caterer. The team also offers wedding and other events. 140 Community Dr., Suite 5 South Burlington 881-2591 or 10 College St., Burlington 861-2554 (sugarsnap.com)

Other favorites:

- **Catering by Sals** 138 Henshaw Dr., Burlington 885-3871 (cateringbyals.com)
- **Chef & Caterers** 102 Highland Ave., Crocker-Hale 555-7570 (cheffandcaterers.com)
- **Have Your Date Catering** 68 Lake St., Suite 14, Burlington 540-0331 (haveyourdate.com)
- **Lark Professional Catering** 377 Community Ave., Suite 5 South Burlington 837-9881 (larkprofessional.com)



BEST FLORIST

Stray Cat Flower Farm

Fresh, pet-friendly, local blooms at an incredible value. Stray Cat's creative arrangements during the growing season. Available for weddings and all Burlington Farmers Market, third-level florist 555-2451. We accommodate all 180+ varieties for Burlington 885-0989 (straycatflowers.com)

Other favorites:

- **Burlington Florist** 1427 Windsor Rd., South Burlington 858-4233 (chappinflowers.com)
- **In Full Bloom** 3637 Shelburne Rd., Shelburne 855-3436 (infullbloom.com)
- **Rafferty and Company Florist** 231 Crocker-Hale Ave., Burlington 855-3063 (raffertyflowers.com)
- **Highland Farm** 100 Crocker-Hale Dr., Suite 100 Burlington 875-8733 (highlandfarm.com)

BEST REAL ESTATE AGENCY

Coldwell Banker Hickok & Boardman Realty

At this Burlington-based agency with a local history going back to the 19th century, more than 60 brokers and staff work with homebuyers, market luxury homes, facilitate transactions, and provide local expertise to both buyers and sellers. 3002 Hickok Ave. Burlington 835-3032 (hickokandboardman.com)

Other favorites:

- **Century 21 Jack Associates** 654-5555 (c21.com)
- **Four Seasons Real Estate's International Real Estate** 555-2451 (fourseasonsrealestate.com)
- **Keller Williams Vermont** 654-4500 (kellerwilliams.com)
- **RE/MAX North Professionals** 655-3559 (realestate.com)



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10-12 N. Vermont Ave. Burlington 640-8345 (nathan.com)

BEST REAL ESTATE AGENT

Nancy Jenkins

Nancy Jenkins is a real estate agent in 100% of the nation's top 100 real estate markets, and at the top 100 residential real estate markets. She's been award winning real estate agent for 10 years. Her knowledge of the dynamic Vermont real estate market is second to none. 100 S. Sutter St., Suite 100 Burlington 861-8888 (nancyjenkins.com)

Other favorites:

- **Brian Bonham** 340 The Square Rd., Burlington 845-7073 (brianbonham.com)
- **Edie Dupuy** 1333 S. Sutter St., Burlington 398-0832 (ediedupuy.com)
- **Jessie Briggs** 875 Remond St., Crocker-Hale 333-5670 (jessiebriggs.com)
- **Kristina Roberts** 107 S. Sutter St., Burlington 333-5670 (kristinaroberts.com)

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With nearly 90,000 members and \$1 billion in assets, NEFCU is the nation's largest credit union. Besides offering loans, mortgages and credit cards, NEFCU is a community partner and benefactor of local charities. (802-402-8760 nefcu.com)

Other finalists:

- Merchants Bank** 603-902-5233 mbn.com
- North Country Federal Credit Union** 802-930-2358 nycfu.com
- Seacoast Federal Credit Union** 603-629-6666 seacoastfederal.org
- West Coast Employees Credit Union** 802-371-5882 wecu.com

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Other finalists:

- Early College Union** 802-360-0040 www.earlycollegeunion.com
- Kyle Rogers - HomeBridge Financial Services** 802-460-0000 www.kyle-rogers.com
- Mark Chafetz - Mortgage Financial** 802-460-0000 www.markchafetz.com
- Spence Mortgage** 802-460-0000 www.spencemortgage.com

BEST SALON (UNISEX)

Indigo

This upscale salon and personal styling center provides the "best of everything" and custom "fashion" color or business color - with intricate coloring, conditioning, styling. Services also include hair removal and waxing. (802-655-1111 indigo.com)

Other finalists:

- Deep Deep Hair Design** 802-460-0000 www.deepdeep.com
- DM Salon** 802-460-0000 www.dm-salon.com
- Debra & Burre** 802-460-0000 www.debraandburre.com
- Urban Salon** 802-460-0000 www.urban-salon.com

BEST BARBER/HAIR CUT

The Men's Room

Named one of America's "25 Best Salons and Barber Shops" by Men's Health magazine, The Men's Room provides guys with a laid-back and relaxed environment for their hair. (802-460-0000 www.mensroom.com)

Other finalists:

- August Barber** 802-460-0000 www.augustbarber.com
- Chop Barber** 802-460-0000 www.chopbarber.com
- Barry Barber** 802-460-0000 www.barrybarber.com
- Barber's Barber Shop** 802-460-0000 www.barbersbarbershop.com

BEST DAY SPA*

Oasis Day Spa

Carve a complete body sculpting plan into a pamper treatment. Oasis offers a long list of services including body treatments - plus hair styling, nail and massage - and a complete skin care line. (802-460-0000 www.oasisdayspa.com)

Other finalists:

- Abundance Wellness Healing Spa** 802-460-0000 www.abundancewellness.com
- Chop Barber** 802-460-0000 www.chopbarber.com
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BEST SPA*

Topnotch Resort & Spa

Spa's Topnotch is a perfect place to relax. The resort offers a variety of services for a complete body treatment. (802-460-0000 www.topnotchresort.com)

Other finalists:

- The Spa at Stone Mountain Lodge** 802-460-0000 www.stonemountainlodge.com
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Other finalists:

- The Nail Salon** 802-460-0000 www.thenailsalon.com
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- [WRAC 91.1 Middlebury College Radio](#)
www.middlebury.edu
- [WUPV 93.7 The Mike \(Tulane University\)](#)
wupv.mic.edu

staff pick

BEST PUBLIC RELATIONS FLACK

DOROTHY SCHNUR, GREEN MOUNTAIN POWER

Officially they go by "corporate spokesperson," "director of communications," or if they're coqs or addressees, "public information officer." Journalists call them by one name: flack. (It's what they get when events go awry for their superstitious — and what they give reporters if we flub a story about them.) Vermont's press corps is blessed with many top-notch flacks, but few are as sharp as 33-year Green Mountain Power veteran "Dolly" Schnur, who knows Vermont's largest utility inside and out. It's a wonder no one photographed her chain-sawing trees and reconnecting downed power lines after a major storm.



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BEST PHOTOJOURNALIST

MATTHEW THORSEN, SEVEN DAYS

Technically, Matthew Thorsen became Seven Days' first-ever staff photographer in fall 2010, but the soft-spoken, fun-loving photo guy has been gracing our pages with his distinctly artistic viewpoint for all 20 years of the statewide's existence. Every week brings a new and unusual assignment (or three), be it photographing a group of Vermont farmers at the food at a hot new restaurant, Thorsen has long been a fixture at local festivals — you've seen him as the seven-foot-tall, gold-headed skeleton with the camera strapping a longside the floats at Burlington's March Day parade. His work has appeared in local art galleries, as well as in a book of black-and-white portraits of older Burlington bands. Thorsen even served as Bernie Sanders' official 2006 campaign photographer if he ever comes calling to take your picture, you better answer the phone.

matthorsten.com



PHOTO BY MATTHEW THORSEN

BEST METEOROLOGIST

Tom Messner, WPTZ

Can anyone ever boss this cheerful TV weatherman whose smile is always out to sunny? He's been on WPTZ since '87.

Other finalists

- Gary Satterly: WCAX (WVCH, Day)
- Mark Brown: WRX (20/10)
- Sherry Hooper: WKAX (WVGH, Noon)
- Steve Mahold: WRX (9pm)

BEST SOCIAL MEDIA PERSONALITY

Bernie Sanders

Despite being among the conservative, success-and-petty-privilege Vermont 10-year-old junior senator for, in the course of his U.S. presidential run, "Bernie" has become a king of social media within the New York Times. (@BernieSanders)

Other finalists

- Eric Gillingham: @EricGillingham
- Michele Hays: @MicheleHays
- Tara Leigh Wheeler: @TaraLeighWheeler
- Lynn Hurd: @LynnHurd

BEST VERMONT STORY THIS YEAR

Bernie Sanders running for president

Bernie Sanders, 66? Six. Sanders bowed the odds, beat and blew and finally took the plunge for the presidency on April 28. (It was just a Vermont story, right?) The former Burlington mayor has gained national attention for his anti-tax, anti-war, anti-establishment, socialist agenda.

Other finalists

- Shuntin nearly defeat of the reelection
- Vermont Health Connect
- Governor's race

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LAKEVIEW CEMETERY

The lake view isn't the only distinguishing feature of this city-owned graveyard in Burlington. Established in 1871, Lakeview was designed as a "garden cemetery" full of ornamental vegetation, fountains and winding paths where townsfolk might enjoy a Sunday picnic. The fountains have disappeared, but the lush trees remain, meandering past graveyards including Warren General George



CATHY
RESMER
2015-16
EDITOR

Stearns, who commanded troops at Gettysburg, and Warren Austin, the first U.S. ambassador to the United Nations. Premier Charles Louis Hays, Walt Whitman's brother-in-law, is buried here, too, along with unnamed paupers and orphans. Need to do some serious thinking? A makeshift altar I thought this cemetery is a nice quiet thought in perspective.

405 North Ave., Burlington
804-033, anjaphotoblog.com

BEST PEOPLE-WATCHING PLACE

Church Street Marketplace

Downside: Burlington's pedestrian-only promenade is a hotbed of shops, restaurants, local vendors and street performers. When the weather's nice, you can get drinks, lunch or dinner outside and watch the world go by. (Church St., Burlington 804-384-1848; churchstreetmarketplace.com)

Other finalists

- **Burlington Farmers Market:** City Market Park, Burlington 804-582, burlingtonfarmersmarket.org
- **Clay Market/Green River Corp:** 82 S. Wendover Rd., Burlington 804-990 (signposted only)
- **Laurens House & Cafe:** 10 Church St., Burlington 804-3958, laurenshouse.com
- **Waterfront Park:** Burlington.org/burlington

BEST PLACE TO TAKE YOUR PARENTS

Church Street Marketplace

More wit/crit at Church St. than than in Burlington's version of a place — a pedestrian mall with shops, restaurants, street vendors and performers for all ages. (See outside in summer for markets, people-watching.) (Church St., Burlington 804-384-1848; churchstreetmarketplace.com)

Other finalists

- **Laurens House & Cafe:** 10 Church St., Burlington 804-3958, laurenshouse.com
- **Shedburne Farms:** 901 Herndon Rd., Shelburne 804-8888, shedburnefarms.org
- **The Burns Museum:** 6202 Brimley Rd., Shelburne 804-3348, theburnsmuseum.org
- **Waterfront Park:** Burlington.org/burlington

BEST STATE PARK

Mt. Philo State Park

Mt. Philo is the perfect high-altitude scenic trail for hikers — you have viewpoints but can drive up the 944-foot peak. Open from Memorial Day through Columbus Day weekend. (15415 Mt. Philo Rd., Charlotte 804-2100; visitphilo.com)

Other finalists

- **Grand Isle State Park:** 36 East Street South, Grand Isle 804-3300, visitgrandisle.org
- **Green Run Forest:** Randolph
- **Sand Bar State Park:** 1015 Route 2, Milton 804-2100, visitbarstatepark.org
- **Swanwick State Park (Mt. Mansfield):** 214 Mountain Rd., Swanton 804-3628, visitswanwick.com

BEST DAY HIKE

Camel's Hump State Park

Mountaineer founder Sir John Ballou Williams' 19th-century 4,000-foot mountain "Camel's Hump" is a hike to the top. From the Washington side, you can go to the top and make it back to take in the view for dinner. (Burlington 804-6065, visitcamels.com)

Other finalists

- **Mt. Philo State Park:** 3420 Mt. Philo Rd., Charlotte 804-2100, visitphilo.com
- **Mt. Mansfield:** 15000 Rt. 2, Swanton 804-3628, visitswanwick.com
- **Stokes Mountain:** 10000 Rt. 2, Swanton 804-3628, visitswanwick.com
- **Swanwick State Park:** 214 Mountain Rd., Swanton 804-3628, visitswanwick.com
- **Stone Mountain:** 10000 Rt. 2, Swanton 804-3628, visitswanwick.com

BEST PLACE TO BIKE

Burlington Bike Path

This scenic path follows the river and western woods. It's a mix of dirt and gravel, from the southern end of Lakeview Park north to the Williston River where the path connects via bridge with the Colchester Bike Path. (804-2300, visitburlington.org)

Other finalists

- **City Hall Forest:** Mountain Rd., Dover 804-3300, visitmountain.org
- **Island Lake Path:** South Burlington to South River, Burlington.org
- **Kingdom Trails:** 100 South St., Burlington 804-2300, kingdomtrails.com
- **Lake Champlain Islands:** visitmountain.org
- **Stone Mountain Path:** Stone, potter.com

BEST PLACE TO SWIM*

Bolton Potholes

After Lake Champlain's near-silver waters by taking a dip in this, surprisingly popular natural swimming hole. (Access is a few 100-foot swimming swimmers pool. (Burlington 804-3300, visitburlington.org)

Other finalists

- **Lundy Park:** 200 Lundy Park St., Burlington 804-3300, visitburlington.org
- **North Beach:** 10000 Rt. 2, Swanton 804-3628, visitswanwick.com
- **Swanwick Park:** 10000 Rt. 2, Swanton 804-3628, visitswanwick.com
- **Swanwick State Park:** 214 Mountain Rd., Swanton 804-3628, visitswanwick.com

BEST PLACE TO KAYAK/CANOE*

Lake Champlain

As the 13th-largest lake in the U.S., Lake Champlain's sparkling blue waters are a beautiful sight. (See outside in summer for markets, people-watching.) (Church St., Burlington 804-384-1848; churchstreetmarketplace.com)

Other finalists

- **Green River:** 1500 Green River Dam Rd., Milton 804-3300, visitmilton.org
- **Island Lake:** 10000 Rt. 2, Swanton 804-3628, visitswanwick.com
- **Stokes Mountain:** 10000 Rt. 2, Swanton 804-3628, visitswanwick.com
- **Swanwick State Park:** 214 Mountain Rd., Swanton 804-3628, visitswanwick.com
- **Waterfront Park:** Burlington.org/burlington

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